

CNN - MID TERM ELECTION 2006 (11-7-2006)

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From Tuesday, November 7th, 2006, FOX News coverage of the 2006 mid term elections. The Democrats took over the Congress and the Senate in this election. The unpopular Iraq War was a top election issue this year.

- Coverage runs from 6:00 P.M E.T - 12:00 A.M E.T

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ahead here tonight this is a special edition of blue dobbs tonight america votes 2006 live from cnn's election headquarters in new york here now lou dobbs good evening everybody voters tonight are casting ballots in an election that could have a tremendous influence on the future direction of the country the results could in fact change the conduct of the war in iraq and determine the fate of president bush's second term agenda but this election is unlikely to stop the war on our middle class to end our illegal immigration and border security crisis or prevent corporate america from trying to influence our government in a moment we'll have the live reports from washington and expert analysis from three of the very brightest political analysts in the country but first the initial exit poll results are now available just within the past hour we can give you early estimates of who voted in this election and we can give you considerable analysis of why bill snyder is here to do exactly that with the very latest on these estimates bill snyder lou you call them initial results keep in mind people are still voting around the country and we're still taking polls of voters around the country the west coast for instance polls will be open for many hours but we're going to show you the results among people who are interviewed so far what were the issues that determine how people vote was this a national election or a local election we asked people which was more important to them and the answer was by nearly two to one people said they were voting in this election on national issues 62 percent local issues 33 percent now does this mean the democrats are bound to do well democrats were hoping that it would be a referendum on iraq but there were other national issues like the war on terror republicans talked about taxes how about that economy how did the voters polled so far feel the economy is going in this country is did they say economic conditions are

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is did they say economic conditions are excellent or good 47 percent said that not so good or poor 52. it appears that voters are not very bullish on the economy even though the republicans and the white house were talking it up they are divided so it doesn't look like the economy was a determinative issue in this election but here's something that wasn't even close to 50 50. that is how do people feel about congress and the answer was overwhelmingly 62 percent said they disapprove of the way congress is handling its job only 36 percent approve that could be a very powerful mandate for change at least a strong indicator lieu of broken government bill thank you very much bill snyder and bill throughout the evening here will be giving us his analysis of these exit polls and the results as the as they continue to flow from the polling booths all across the country bills thank you very much democrats tonight are hopeful that they can win control of the house of representatives for the first time in more than a decade they are less sure about their prospects in the battle for the senate our congressional correspondent dana bash has the report now from washington dana house minority leader nancy pelosi came to the capitol here to the capitol today and our producer ted barrett bumped into her she was looking downright giddy he jokingly said how are you madame speaker and

she replied i like the title but then quickly caught herself and said not yet no but in public you certainly hear some caution from nancy pelosi in private however we understand that she and her staff are already talking about whether or not they should move their suite of offices to the much larger ones now occupied by the current house speaker dennis hastert now there was not a lot of caution at all earlier today at a briefing by the house and senate democratic chairman of the campaign committees talking about the fact that they are very optimistic bubbling with optimism as a matter of fact about the fact that democratic turnout they say is up and one even said that this will be in historic midterm elections meanwhile

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meanwhile on the republican side lou republicans are also saying that they have a slight maybe a 5 percent advantage and turnout from their side over 2004 but talk to senior republicans on the hill and elsewhere they simply are resigned even depressed about what they're going to potentially encounter tonight i talked to one senior republican aide here on the hill earlier today who said i feel like i did in ninth grade going in for a chemistry test i knew that i didn't study study for he said that i i'm going to fail and there's nothing i can do about it donna thank you very much well nonetheless the white house tonight is putting on a show of confidence that the republican party will retain control of both the senate and the house gop strategists predicting that a big turnout of republican supporters would deny the democrats victory suzanne malvo reports now from the white house suzanne lou we saw president bush and the first lady earlier today in crawford texas that's where they cast their ballots and then the president made a brief remark to all americans decidedly nonpartisan saying that everybody should go out and vote and do their civic duty but make no question about it bush administration officials realize the number one issue for voters is the iraq war that this very well could be a referendum on the president of the iraq war and either losing the house or the senate would definitely weaken the president's ability to get things done in the next two years now some white house officials however and insiders say there is certainly no talk about that possibility not here in this building they feel that any hint of doubt would affect voter turnout they say that they cannot concede and another white house insider spoke to who says it's going to be a bad day for the republican party simply said that karl rove and company are very encouraged with what they're seeing in increased voter turnout of republicans in rural areas in key states lou suzanne thank you susan malvo from the white house apart of course from the outcome of this election the biggest question tonight is whether or not your vote will actually count election officials all across the country have been reporting problems with e-voting

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been reporting problems with e-voting machines kenny pilgrim has the latest for us kitty lou voter activists have been monitoring all day and common cause says 15 of their hotline calls were about mechanical problems with electronic voting machines voter action says they are drowning in reports and verified voting says the system was clearly very complex for volunteers in denver lines were hours long the electronic poll books with voter registrations were not ready in indiana paper ballots had to be used in more than 100 precincts because the touch screens on electronic voting machines were not working 222 locations that we had to send technicians to to get the machine up and running in new jersey the sequoia machines had printer or mechanical problems polling locations issued paper ballots and had voting machines replaced broward county florida a 90-minute delay because of activation mess-ups number of people that were sent away and told to come back i hope that they have the perseverance and come back and get their votes cast these of course are the observable problems with the machines now none of this actually shows how the votes are tallied at the end of the day and we might see some additional problems as that process continues lou kitty thank you very much kenny pilgrim joining me now i'm joined by three political analysts who have credentials beyond compare joined by uh ed rollins he's the republican strategist former white house political director errol lewis columnist for new york daily news and robert zimmerman democratic strategist and fundraiser uh let me turn to you first errol these early exit polls suggesting uh the there is a relatively strong turnout and a strong reaction in some cases on issues that weren't anticipated particularly corruption well that's right the the earlier segment that talked about where everybody said their concerns were was sort of the

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said their concerns were was sort of the reverse of what we've been hearing for weeks and i think what that means is that when people are listening to these ads that tens of millions of dollars are being invested in when people are watching all these news reports they're taking their own message from it and in many individual races corruption was the main issue ed uh we've heard the white house uh very confident suzanne malveaux reporting that the president laura bush very confident we're hearing that nancy pelosi is almost giddy in anticipation of the results here what do you make of it well i think it's been a tremendous turnout today and i think both sides have turned out their own vote but the critical thing is the independence turning out independents are turning out we're going to lose republicans big time because they're going to break against us two to one and i feel that they probably are and i think they're the ones that are most concerned probably about the corruption you know it's a very it's a very important point ed's bringing up in 2004 the republicans ran bush's re-election by trying to build the republican base and focusing only on their base at the expense of the independence democrats have targeted independents very aggressively and in fact they're expanding their base by gaining more of that independent vote okay we'll be back with these gentlemen throughout the broadcast here we appreciate it coming up next we'll have more from our political panel and bill snyder will also be here he'll have the latest exit poll information for us and his analysis will also have live reports from key senate and house races all across the country a great deal more it's the beginning of a very exciting night stay with us [Music] welcome back to our special election night coverage political scandal voter frustration drawing voters to the polls within the hour we'll see the first results in this election where the party controlling the senate could change or not ed henry reports from virginia

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or not ed henry reports from virginia tonight where there has been record voter turnout for the senate race charges of racism and immorality being charged and counter-charged in that race bob franken reporting tonight from ohio where frustrated voters are looking for a senator who will fight for american workers and jonathan freed reporting tonight from missouri one of the tightest senate races in the nation we begin with ed henry in richmond virginia ed lou i'm here at the campaign headquarters of republican senator george allen as you know he had dreams just a few months ago of running for president in 2008 now his back is against the wall on a collision course with democratic challenger jim webb a very tight race as you mentioned turnout very high the absentee ballots alone there were forty four thousand last time there was a midterm election in two thousand two this time we're told a hundred and thirty one thousand absentee ballots were requested this time around the allen team is hoping that that high turnout is because conservatives are turning out to vote for him and to vote for a state level ban on same-sex marriage the democrat jim webb hoping it's just the opposite that people are turning out on iraq an issue that webb has been demanding a new course for the war and also turning against allen who had a lot of miscues such as that infamous makako moment the polls will be closing at seven but we may not have an early answer this is some a race that could go late into the night one thing is certain while we don't know what's happening in the senate race just yet it's clear that senator allen's hopes of running for president are really on hold now clearly lou thank you very much ed henry ohio a state tarred by political scandal and economy challenged on all fronts in cuyahoga county polling locations the ohio democratic party has filed a lawsuit to keep those polls open late to ensure ballot security and to make certain that ballots are accurately counted the ohio democrats signing numerous problems with those e-voting machines early in the day bob franken is in columbus ohio and joins us now

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joins us now bob there have been a series of problems over the last several elections in cuyahoga county which is cleveland but let's put this in another context the cleveland area is the democratic stronghold and so the democratic party would like to maximize the turnout there it has been low as it traditionally is during the day the large bulk of the voters there come in after the working hours there's a little bit less than an hour and a half so within the hour that lawsuit was filed by the ohio democratic party in federal court in northern ohio the democratic candidate sherrod brown is looking for every vote he can he is higher in the polls that was

what was the prediction was made so he made his vote today in an area just west of cleveland his republican counterpart in this race the incumbent senator mike dewine voted also in the dayton area both have headed to their campaign headquarters now to check out the result in a state that has experienced of a tremendous intensity and interest because of the variety of scandals and corruption charges and of course the interest in the iraq war but right now the focus is once again where it should not be in the minds of many on the cleveland area and the problems they're having with the voting machines lou thank you bob franken reporting from columbus in missouri the battle there between senate incumbent jim tenet and democrat claire mccaskill has been one of the nation's tightest races jonathan freed is in saint louis tonight and joins us now jonathan lou it has been one of the tightest races and because of that everybody has been focusing on the turnout here the big question would it be as big as predicted and so far what we're hearing from reports coming into us from around the state is that yes that is the case the turnout today so far is higher than has been uh has been normal for midterm elections both campaigns are trying to spend it their way when we talk to them today lou they're saying that their base is coming out strongly and in fact both candidates say that they had to wait in line at their own polling places today

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polling places today when it came time to vote again when a race is as tight as this one every person that you can get to the polls counts and that stem cell debate that's also going on here is bringing even more people to the polls so everybody hanging on waiting to see how one side affects the other and one campaign here affects the other lou thank you very much jonathan freed from saint louis and we will be obviously covering the missouri race very very carefully and one suspects uh throughout the evening here errol let me turn to you and ask you we're hearing a lot about heavy turnout from our reporters and we're getting reports of it across the country who's the beneficiary of that overall on balance or can you make that judgment well you can but to do so you'd have to throw in an important fact that hasn't been talked about a lot which is that there are a lot of governor seats that are up uh today there are nine vacant seats that are being vacated by republicans one by democrats so you can sort of see that there's going to be um a lot more emphasis going in the democrat direction where you have challengers trying to sort of snatch seats a lot of time and effort has been focused on them and in a place like ohio where there's a bitterly contested race for for governor it's going to spill over into all the other races and to the extent that it's been a question about national parties trying to push their agenda i think you start to see all kinds of new effects new people coming out who maybe don't care so much about what's going on in iraq but care a great deal about what's going to happen in their state house do you agree i think this is pretty much about the war this this i think this campaign has been nationalized traditionally there's a 30 drop off from presidential elections which is a record high election 2004 the highest in 68. i think this will be a record high and i think it's all about i think it's been a nationalized election and i do think a lot of us the war corruption the way congress is dealt that sounds that way ed puts it as if the democrats will be the beneficiary of the of the strategy rahm emanuel has to be given a lot of credit for the strategy that he employed right well i think it was clearly the strategy of the dem of rahm emanuel

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the dem of rahm emanuel nancy pelosi schumer senator schumer and reid to nationalize this election and to make a referendum on george bush and he certainly played into their hands if you look well we want to turn that because obviously whatever happens tonight will def define the balance of power for the remainder president george w bush's presidency let's turn to cnn senior analyst jeff greenfield jeff your thoughts well you heard about three endangered republican senate seats if republicans have hopes of retaining the senate i want to show you two states very quickly one of them uh is rhode island uh where this should have been a put away for the democrats it's one of the blue estates lincoln chafee the incumbent republican is the most independent or least loyal depending on your politics republican there is broke with the bush administration on tax cuts on the war in iraq wrote in the name of george bush's father in 2004. the one thing he hasn't done is leave his party sheldon whitehouse was seen to be a favorite in recent weeks there's been recent days there's been a sense that maybe voters are coming back and admiring chafee for his independence obviously we'll see how that plays out tonight the other race will republicans have hopes is a democratic seat

in this open democratic seat in maryland one of the bluest of the blue states ben cardin the democrat a congressman won a narrow primary against quasim fumea a former congressman an african-american and cardin's being pushed very hard by lieutenant governor michael steele the theory is if steele can pick up 20 percent 25 30 of the black vote they can take that seat away from democrats and deny democrats control of the senate as we have pointed out we'll let you know as soon as we know exactly jeff thanks very much jeff greenfield just ahead we're receiving obviously new exit poll information uh i will be bringing you the very latest as on that as we receive it and analysis of course and from walmart to wachovia the big spenders in this election come straight from corporate america will have a special report on the best government money can buy and much more

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much more as america votes 2006 we'll have live reports from the key house races across the country and our election coverage will continue here on cnn throughout the night beginning at 7 pm eastern wolf blitzer anderson cooper paula's on and i will be bringing you the projected winners from all across the country then at 12 midnight eastern a special edition of larry king live stay with us our coverage tonight wouldn't be complete without mentioning the biggest driving force in this election special interests and corporate america with an estimated 2.6 billion dollars being spent over the course of this campaign and election this election is expected to be the most expensive midterm race in history lisa sylvester has our report lisa lou to knock out an incumbent and win a house seat now costs a minimum of one million dollars to take over a senate position starting cost seven million dollars guess who's paying for these elections big corporate money business interests provide 75 of the money that is given to candidates and parties at the federal level on average and that's true again this cycle the u.s chamber of commerce spent 20 million dollars this year just on federal races 10 million dollars in fact in just the final days on calls and mailings the business interest political action committee spent another three million dollars and walmart tops the list of companies that have donated the most according to the center for responsive politics more than a million dollars on the federal level and another million dollars for state races of course big corporate donors are paying but they also want to see a return on their investment a few million now translating to friends in high places later and this year the share big business money going to democrats has increased but they're still running behind republicans lou all right and it is the story no one wants to report it seems across the national media lisa

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seems across the national media lisa sylvester thank you very much uh of course this broadcast is an exception to that robert zimmerman what in the world are we doing when we have reached a point we're spending 2.6 billion on these campaigns corporate america funding both political parties how can we this is obscene it is obscene and it threatens our democracy as profoundly as the e-boast as the e-voting systems threaten our democracy and until we move in the direction of public financing of campaigns we're never going to rid the corruption that corporate financing of congressional races always leads to and rollins do you concur or not i'm not for public financing but i certainly concur this there's a couple congressional races that'll be five to seven million dollars in this cycle which used to be a senator gubernatorial race in a big a big state it's just it's uh it's out of hand it's it's way too much money you don't need that kind of money to be spent in these these races uh and it's uh it's overkill harold you don't want to uh minimize the the effect of this but let's keep in mind the unions have been players in this game too uh the service employees international union they're mostly hospital workers janitors and the like they spend about 35 million dollars according to their emails contacting their members pushing people to the polls and so forth i think in in you see that play out in the democratic plank if the democrats should win one of the things they've promised is to change the rules to make it easier for unions to get into the workplace well let's ask robert zimmerman how they sort the out and start that out they get the union money and they get all that corporate money is it going to be evenly divvied up here i mean how does that work it's not about that it's about changing the way we finance our congressional campaigns in our presidential campaign he's a lonely voice this race this race will be more it will be more money we spent in this midterm election for probably 30 or 40 targeted races than the presidential race in 2000 and nobody has run a campaign nobody's run a campaign based on getting money

out of out of elections which shows you how that principle of public financing in 2000 and lou you were a strong leader of that around that issue as well and that was important to make people aware of it i mean we have to come up with an intelligent way in which to to conduct these races so that uh

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to conduct these races so that uh candidates at least are running on issues uh on a platform an agenda that is focused on the interest of the common good and the national interest not on special interests or corporate america or organized labor we will continue in just a moment coming up next explosive new exit poll information has just come in as the president and the republican party made a miscalculation in this election bill snyder will tell us what those exit polls are suggesting also live reports on some pivotal house races and reports of frustration caused by those new e-voting machines they've been pouring in all day how big is the problem how well are the jurisdictions around the country managing the problems we'll have the latest for you and also be sure to stay with cnn for our prime time election coverage wolf blitzer anderson cooper paula zanay reporting live from new york beginning at 7 pm eastern here tonight and there will be special election coverage on larry king live tonight from los angeles beginning at midnight eastern and i'll be right back stay with us [Music] excellent information exit poll information is pouring in and over the last few minutes new information from those exit polls bill snyder has the very latest for us bill lou the economy was supposed to be the issue that paid off for the white house republicans were running hard on the good economy the stock market is booming gas prices are dropping but guess what when we asked voters was the which was the economy a very important issue in the way you voted among those interviewed at least so far around the country those who said economy extremely important were voting by over 20 points for the democratic candidate for the house of representatives it looks like the economy turned out to be a democratic not a republican issue terrorism what about people who said terrorism was extremely important very important issue for republicans in o2 and o4 how did it do this time well

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and o4 how did it do this time well majority of voters who cited terrorism did vote republican but notice how close it is 53 voted republican 45 percent democrats democrats are becoming more competitive on the terrorism issue and finally an issue of great concern to viewers of this program illegal immigration people who said that was a very important issue how did they vote the answer is they split 51 percent republican 46 percent democratic a very close split on the illegal immigration issue neither party is particularly preferred okay on a host of issues apparently bill snyder thank you very much one name is having a major impact in two house races tonight in florida's 14th district mark foley's name is on the ballot the current gop candidate is not and in western new york a senior republican is tainted by the foley scandal john zarrella is in florida on the race for mark foley's vacated house seat mary snow is in western new york where fallout from the foley scandal has been dogging congressman tom reynolds campaign we begin with john zarrella in jupiter florida john lu we're at the jupiter beach resort where tim foley the democratic candidate in the 16th congressional district is hoping to be here a little later to celebrate a victory it won't be easy it's going to be hard fought the republican candidate joe negron hand-picked by the party to replace mr foley has made strong strides in the in the last weeks catching up closing the gap and uh tim foley said all along that he expected that this after all has been a or tim mahoney has said all along this has been a republican seat for a quarter of a century he didn't expect anything less than a tight race and that's apparently what we've got here tonight neck and neck as the polls close here in 25 minutes now when people went to the polls here in palm beach county what they saw on the ba on the ballot was mark foley's name right there at the top the republicans say they believe that the electors the the voters are smart enough to know that a vote for

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are smart enough to know that a vote for foley is actually a vote for negron in fact the republicans kind of made a joke out of it saying punch foley for negron uh hoping that uh of course that republicans will figure it out and will go to the polls and vote for joe negron but again lou this is going to be close very close and again

the polls closing here in about 25 minutes luke john thank you very much john zarrella you'll be with us throughout the evening here tonight fallout from the mark foley scandal still surrounds the house republican leadership congressman tom reynolds admitting that he had been told about foley's inappropriate emails long before they were made public he subsequently apologized to his constituents for not doing more but that may not have been enough mary snow now live at the erie county republican headquarters in buffalo new york mary well lou some voters we spoke with said they are not ready to be so forgiving this is a very tight race and some here are bracing for what could be a very long night here in erie county the biggest in this district also home to both candidates voter turnout according to the board of elections is said to be moderate to heavy and that is encouraging to both camps however voters we spoke with today say the reynolds handling of the foley matter was a big part in their decision making even supporters of reynolds who say they voted for him expressed that they were troubled by how he handled it reynolds in the past three days has launched an unprecedented get out the vote drive in his district this against his democratic challenger jack davis an independent businessman who pumped over two million dollars of his own money into this campaign just recently he pledged not to take a salary if he is elected saying he would take a token one dollar salary each year now these two candidates ran against each other two years ago and davis lost by 12 points but tonight both camps are hesitant to make

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tonight both camps are hesitant to make any kind of projections lou thank you very much mary snow from buffalo new york joining us once again our senior political analyst jeff greenfield with more force on the battle for control of the house jeff okay lou a quick primer this is the old house as rosemary clooney once sang 232 republicans 202 democrats one independent who votes with the democrats you need a shift of 15 seats here's what's driving the republicans to a certain sense of pessimism in state after state many in house republicans are endangered new york and pennsylvania where their gubernatorial candidates and pre-election polls have run far behind as many as eight or nine republicans could lose their house seats there in ohio where the republican party's been mired in scandal four or five house republicans endangered but they're also in trouble in seats in indiana in kentucky two in florida and even out west which in presidential years the interior west has voted solidly red you see republican incumbents in trouble in in arizona in colorado in idaho president bush was campaigning in kansas for congressman and former four-minute miler jim ryan that seat should have been utterly safe and across the country at best republicans can point to three or four democratic incumbents they might be able to beat that in a nutshell is why so many people believe that the house is going to turn democratic before the night is over jeff thank you very much jeff greenfield uh returning to uh to our panel here uh is it your sense uh that we can make draw some pretty strong conclusions from the fact that the president jeff greenfield said had to campaign in places like kansas which you would think would be a relatively safe state given history i think there are two issues here at work one you're seeing a wide diverse collection of democrats running around the country competitive in idaho colorado nevada in different regions and they're running as mainstream democrats they're running uh and much much showing much greater diversity than in the past the other point though is that's so critical is that when george bush shows

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critical is that when george bush shows up in a competitive state like in florida the republican candidate for governor disappears right we thought we were election proof because of reapportionment and obviously this election is proving we're not uh tom reynolds a very fine man of the head of congressional committee was a very prominent speaker a candidate for speaker uh to replace denny hastert and obviously he's fighting for his life harold the the idea that uh that tom reynolds is in trouble jack davis uh taking him on in buffalo on the issue of basic economic issues irrespective of what some of these exit polls are saying in doing so well the implications to you oh absolutely upstate new york is a disaster economically it's been one of the main focuses of all the other statewide races that are going on and uh even though it may not show up in the polls in this nationalized climate the reality is western uh new york buffalo has been in trouble for a long long time there's been tens of thousands of layoffs mostly upstate new york this year alone and that race between

reynolds and davis is one of those that has moved back and forth the most recent polls i believe showing just about a four-point advantage back again with reynolds but it is one of the tight ones that we're going to be watching here throughout the evening and davis is a very good candidate the best thing that's happened for reynolds is dave's not very good candidate and he may pull it out because of that just make a quick point i think what really hurt reynolds was not just that he knew about the foley scandal but after he knew about it he encouraged foley to run again just ahead we'll have the first projections on election results here in just a few moments and i'll be back with our distinguished panel of analyst strategists journalists editorial board members and folks who really know and i'll be talking with an e-voting activist who can update us on what state leaders are saying about e-voting nationwide and this campaign season has been convulsed by controversy and scandal from foley to cary to haggard we'll take a look back just a little ways back stay with us

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stay with us [Music] we have just received this word from ohio our correspondent bob franken reporting that a federal district court judge there is right now writing an order to insist that the polls in 16 precincts in cuyahoga county where there have been large numbers of e-voting machine problems that those those polls remain open until at least 10 pm tonight again 16 precincts in cuyahoga county that is the cleveland area in ohio which has been beset by problems but 16 precincts will be by federal order keeping their polls open until 10 o'clock uh tonight uh new reports keep coming in about problems and not all over the country but certainly in those states uh on the east coast in which we've got considerable focus uh with the very latest for us i'm joined by warren stewart he is a vote trust usa it's a group that is fielding tonight and today a barrage of complaints warren this decision in cuyahoga county by the federal judge directly related to those e-voting troubles that we've all been fearing exactly we've been having reports all day long from states across the country where machines have failed to boot up at the beginning of the day or have stopped working for one reason or the other it's resulted in long lines we have reports like that from well of course ohio uh indiana mississippi uh kentucky new jersey i could go on and on right so we've had those sort of problems and uh we anticipate more of those we've also had problems reported of vote switching on machines where uh either on the screen on a touch screen where the the voters actually voting the the uh they vote for one candidate and it shows up for the other one or on the

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it shows up for the other one or on the review screen they're seeing a candidate that that they didn't vote for and uh that's happening in a lot of counties in florida and also in texas and we've seen that in kentucky as well so those are all big concerns but i think in some ways the worst is yet to come because at the end of the day when they are merging all these totals together in the central tabulators i think we're going to have a lot of it's going to be a long night a long night is but at this point are you encouraged at all that we haven't had more problems reported in oh good heavens no i would say there's uh i mean there have been so many calls to the various hotlines that have been set up and uh news reports as well and we have to assume that that's just a fraction of the actual instance they're taking place warren i was trying to look for some good news at all in those early reports on these breakdowns in e-voting machines in particular warren stewart of uh boat trust usa you'll be with us throughout the evening we appreciate it now let's turn back to the panel warren is saying that he's he sees greater problems ahead how much of an implication do you think this this will likely have on this election oh it will it will certainly delay the the final outcome and if the outcome for the control of the house is at all close we could be looking at this for days hopefully not weeks one of the things that goes on here is that there was a push to put in all these new machines without any real sort of standards and i mean the testing the the recent uh um hacking democracy the the documentary that pointed out all of these problems i mean the punch line at the end was that 20 million dollars was going to be spent in ohio on technology that that show proved was not reliable and here we are in ohio wondering about the vote well the other thing is it's going to be if these are close elections but i assume they are going to be it's a tremendous number of absentee ballots that still have to be counted and that could go on for days and i think that anything that that

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and i think that anything that that creates an image that people's votes may not be counted or counted fairly is going to put a darkness over this election very quickly let's call it what it is a political scandal the e-voting system the way absentee ballots are being mishandled being rejected for lack of postage and for that matter the way voter id cards are being used and in fact in some cases being misused to block people from voting okay robert zimmerman thank you very much this midterm campaign has been like no other mudslinging celebrity pitches personal attacks moral misbehavior scandal and a lot more christine romans reports on all of that it began with what is now known as the makaka moment and quickly devolved here welcome to america from a racially insensitive remark to lurid instant messages congressman mark foley coming on to teenage boys coming out of the closet and rushing right into rehab he has never had sexual contact with a minor between the ages of 13 and 15 he was molested by a clergyman mark foley wants you to know that he is a gay man next comes a celebrity slugfest over stem cell research what you do in missouri matters to millions of americans americans like me this is really shameless of michael j fox either he didn't take his medication or he's acting one of the two and then along comes what senator john kerry describes as a joke gone bad telling students if you don't study don't you get stuck in iraq an apparent indictment of the intelligence of u.s troops democrats cringed and the white house demanded an apology this is an absolute insult kerry called him a stepped suit and rushed limbaugh doughey i apologize to no one for my criticism of the president and of his broken policy a day later kerry did apologize for a moment there watching these two

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for a moment there watching these two going at it almost felt like 2004. but then came pastor ted an evangelical advisor to the white house clumsily answering allegations he frequented a gay prostitute and used drugs i called him to buy some meth but i threw it away i went there for a massage finally admitting in a letter to his congregation the fact is i am guilty of sexual immorality i am a deceiver and a liar an american evangelical leader disgraced christine romans uh with uh the sorry side of this uh election uh and uh campaign i want to turn uh for final thoughts to our panel here tonight errol lewis um the outcome of this will be the first step towards the 2008 presidential elections that's where all of the energy is going to go the day after this is finished possibly as early as tomorrow morning i hope it's clean i hope whoever wins wins it and there's not any long-term disputes here this election ultimately is about a very dramatic change in the direction of the country and it also reflects a dramatic change of the demo in the democratic party because of the number of states democrats are competitive in now the idea that this is the beginning of 2008 is not exactly living in the moment darryl are you you wanna well here in new york where we have a certain senator whose last name you may recognize clinton um who has spent more than anybody else running for our office today um there's some thought that this is step one uh towards 2008 she's the closest thing to an incumbent there is no incumbent uh or no vice president she's the closest thing to it and is she your party's uh first choice we have a number of very strong candidates for the democratic nomination if she chooses to run she'll be among them a little sorting out no matter there's a couple other new yorkers that may have been interested in it too not i don't consider the governor one of them but uh wednesday morning a lot of sorting out for the republican party and the democratic party on that one we will be focusing on this election

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we will be focusing on this election throughout the night here cnn's america votes 2006 election coverage continues here in just a moment stay with us [Music] welcome to our coverage america votes 2006. uh we're going to be going to uh our will have the results here in about seven minutes and 47 seconds according to our countdown clock we're going to have complete uh reports of every race in the country analysis by the very best folks in the business and we're going to start out with one of the very best folks wolf blitzler lou thank you very much and in just a few minutes the polls will close in four states and we'll begin to find out what you have decided today do democrats win back part or all of the united states congress whose political stars will rise whose will fall how much did iraq or the war on terror or the economy or scandal drive this election these are some of the questions we'll be answering tonight let's bring it over to our senior analyst jeff

greenfield there are four specific questions that you're looking at at the start of what could be a long night you betcha and this is what they are the first question a flood or a trickle indiana and kentucky have five endangered house republicans there are two democrats in georgia who've been targeted by the republicans for possible defeat if the if the republicans can hold many or most of those seats maybe this is not a flood if they lose most of all of them they're in real trouble the second question an ohio disaster ohio closes at 7 30. it's a state where the republicans have been mired in scandal the republican candidate for governor is running far behind there are four perhaps even five house

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there are four perhaps even five house republican seats that could be lost and between that indiana and kentucky the democrats are doing two-thirds of where they need to get control of the house here's the third question as virginia goes so goes the senate virginia has that race between george allen once considered a shoeing and jim webb if the democrats hope to retake the senate with the six seats net they need they have to take virginia and the fourth question we'll have to wait till the end of the night to answer is what about presidential coattails bush campaigned in georgia for the two republicans challenging the democrats he went into other districts in this region if in fact the president has political clout we should see this in those states and one more quick mention about ohio this is where the vaunted turnout machine of the republicans delivered ohio and therefore a second term to george bush it's an ohio turnout versus a mood in ohio that seems to run against republicans an early indicator as we continue to watch what's going on this is only just beginning i want to bring in anderson cooper he's got the best political team on television with him anderson uh well if we want to talk to some of our reporters both here in the studio and also in the field to find out exactly what their thoughts are what they're going to be looking at over the next 15 20 minutes or so some of these polls are closing john king the earliest thing for me of the republican incumbents in kentucky and indiana if republicans are losing in places like that they're in for a very long night they should be able to hold those seats in a good year we know this is not a good year five or six of them in kentucky and indiana that's a good early sign of how the knight's going to go for the republicans candy crowley i think i'll look for something you know that takes us forward and that is how did democrats do in the rural vote how do they do in some of these southern states the south has been blocked off to democrats in the presidential campaigns for a very long time are they going to make some inroads into those very red states and are those inroads do they show signs of any kind of permanence also joining us tonight from newsweek magazine marcus mary good to have you here what are you going to be looking for good to be here anderson thanks i'm going to be looking to see what happens with the women's vote i'm going to be looking to see how many women turn out how many women support republicans you may have noticed some of the places

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some of the places uh some polls in the in the last few days of this campaign has showed a tightening with the republicans still behind the democrats as far as who voters are likely to vote for tonight but what we've seen is some other polls have a larger gap the ones that showed the republicans catching up to the democrats those polls inevitably have to do with women turning towards republican candidates at the last moment the question is we'll see from where who women vote for tonight whether or not democrats have closed the deal or not we are about four minutes away from polls closing i want to talk to some of the best political minds in the country who we assembled here tonight james carville what are you looking for you know it comes in fast and furious and i mean i'm just going to be watching cnn i'll be watching the monitor on the bottom and i'll be calling campaign managers and political professionals around the country to see if what they're seeing i'm going to be talking to people at the republican national committee people at the democratic dcc to see if i can do some actual reporting as to what they're seeing on the ground paul bagala what race is you watching very closely well i have a stake in pennsylvania i'm my one campaign i'm working for as a consultant that's my friend bob casey's run against rick santorum in a marquee senate race but i'm also intrigued as the bush coattail effect something jeff green phil was talking about before does he have coattails or is he like an anchor you know the most stunning thing in the last week of the election was the republican candidate for florida charlie crist ducked president bush even though bush went to do the event for charlie

but he cut and run from the president that tells you that you know republicans pretty worried about bush paul the gala working in the cut and run mention j.c watts maryland michael still i think republicans have a real chance there and then as you all have said i think indiana kentucky the polls close early there will get some kind of feel for how this thing might trend over the next uh two or three hours about three minutes the polls closing down bennett right paul an advocate to the very end the polls are still open i like that you guys coordinated with your red tides we know uh indiana kentucky early on it's a trickle then there's a flood but those two states will tell us a lot about those congressional races i'm watching maryland that's my home state

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maryland that's my home state rooting hard for michael steele a fascinating race we're going to have a lot of races to talk to let's go back to willpower actually let's get to lou dobbs right now luke not all the campaigning going on outside this studio we're going to be turning to our correspondence covering the very tight race uh first of all and uh and from columbus that we're going to go to bob franken uh ed henry will be reporting from richmond virginia dana bash on capitol hill to give us some sense uh let's turn first to uh to bob franken at mike dewine's headquarters the incumbent republican senator in that tight race with sherrod brown a slight complication in ohio a federal judge is about to rule that 16 voting places in cuyahoga county that's cleveland stay open an extra hour and a half which will make that nine o'clock eastern both sides are reporting heavy turnout which is what the prediction had been in a state that has very high feelings in the state that unless there's an upset is going to be bad news for republicans lou thank you very much bob frank and let's turn to ed henry who's at senator george allen's headquarters in that race with james webb that's right lou i'm in richmond and we're hearing from both camps turnout was very very high almost in presidential election year levels not what they normally say in midterm elections what the republican incumbent george allen is hoping is that that is mostly on the gay marriage issue that's on the state ballot here lou and turning to you quickly dana bash of democratic headquarters in washington d.c well let me tell you that really all i have to do is show you where i am to show you the difference between the feeling and the atmospherics in democratic world versus republican world this is a place where democrats think they're going to have a party uh here at a hotel just near capital just near the capitol on capitol hill republicans are having nothing like this they are sort of spread out in their home districts with some friends watching returns privately democrats are going to be very public here because they think they're going to have a celebration

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they're going to have a celebration later thank you dana bash wolf back to you lou thanks very much we're going to be watching very closely in the next few seconds as the polls close in a few states on the east coast we're going to be able to make some projections who will win in the united states senate we want to make sure though we wait precisely until the top of the hour so that we don't interfere with any of the voting libertarian luger will easily win his sixth term in the united states senate another one vermont bernie sanders he will be elected as an independent senator from vermont we can project he will win in vermont in virginia we do project that the ballot question number one the ban on same-sex marriage that will be approved that will require marriage being defined as a union between a man and a woman in virginia we cannot project a winner in virginia between the fiercely fought battle between george allen and jim webb this contest right now the polling is closed in the commonwealth of virginia but this contest clearly close we cannot project a winner right now but we have been able to project the first two winners in the united states senate in indiana and vermont anderson no no great surprises in either of those races the virginia race of course has been very closely watched we've been watching it talking about in an awful lot john king it has been a fascinating race to say the leader and it's one of the races where yes there's anti-works anti-war sentiment in virginia but george allen's problems are largely of his own making a few statements that came back against him and it shows you how quickly your life can change in politics many thought george allen would get 60 percent he was a conservative the son of a former football coach wanted to go out there and run for president now he's

fighting for survival tonight in a race again that yes there's some of the national dynamic to play in virginia but mainly a race that's very close because of his own problem keeping himself in line his candidacy in line candy cruelly though jim webb has had his own problems as well some of the books he wrote in

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as well some of the books he wrote in the past coming back to uh to to be mentioned on the campaign trail i knew this race was off the rail when i looked up at some point and webb was reading from one of his books and i thought okay i think he's reading his book reviews even exactly so i i thought this was you know one of those anomalies in uh in the entire country in terms of what was it about no i don't i mean it mattered because it just it added to the kind of you know if you if you had a proclivity to like um webb this made you lucky mark as he's being attacked i think it just sort of solidified people's uh people's feelings about the other thing i'll say is that alan went on the air for two minutes in all the major markets last night saying i know i've made mistakes in this campaign and i brought them on myself and then went on if you're like feeling good about your campaign you don't make that kind of smart the fact that there was a ballot initiative to ban same-sex marriage and it seems to have passed at this point does that i mean the idea i guess is to help mobilize conservative voters to come out is that going to help alan that's exactly right that's the idea it's what happened in ohio many analysts think afterwards in the 2004 election in theory it will help allen but this is really i think would be a great test of the gop's much vaunted get out the vote effort this will be the place where in the end most polls had allen actually up about three points at the end this is going to be the place where we're going to see if that actually directed out the vote effort actually worked and he actually has that margin or if it evaporates because other polls have had web ahead how did iraq play in this race jim webb famously his son served in iraq he walks around in his son's combat boots how did it play he's a republican who said the only reason he switched parties to run in this race is because he thinks the president made a misguided choice in iraq senator allen most of the race was on the state of course message the president's right we need to keep going but late in the race like many republicans all around the country started saying well the administration does need a new strategy we can't pull the troops out right away that would be a mistake but we need a new strategy which is again win or lose in virginia you're seeing this dynamic play out in a number of races and many republicans who are on the ballot this year who were stay the course republicans

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who were stay the course republicans three months ago or now change the strategy republicans the question is on monday morning on wednesday morning excuse me will they be fire the defense secretary of republicans i think the other thing is that you heard alan in a speech last night saying i want the troops to come home too as soon as possible i care about these troops so that it it did play a role in it it just got off course on a lot a number of other things but certainly the ads were about that about how allen always backed the president certainly webb made it uh one of his signature issues just by how he dressed was he successful was webb successful in in sort of linking allen to president bush well absolutely i mean it's hard absolutely it's hard not to and this is you know remember this is kind of a washington neighborhood over there in in virginia uh so they were playing to a particularly in arlington the near-end suburbs um these are very democratic areas they've been trending more democratic they've had a democratic governor over there for now twice elected twice so this is this could be a real pickup for democrats and it has the potential to really turn the color of that state in some ways the amazing thing about virginia is it's really two states the north and the south it's like the civil war as if the mason-dixon line went straight through there instead of between maryland and pennsylvania and in the north in nova uh in the washington suburbs it is increasingly affluent increasingly well educating police democratic but the amazing thing about this is it's in that southern part of the state the tidewater area around norfolk where you got huge naval bases web democrats generally do not do well there webb however a former naval secretary under ronald reagan the most republican of modern day republican presidents uh actually is doing well there and i think that's where we're going to see if he loses or wins this race it's what happens in the tidewater regional politics playing a role there also in tennessee we'll talk about that a little bit later on let's go back to wolf who's watching a couple of house race

as well all right anderson thanks very much i want to update our viewers we're getting some of the initial numbers on three congressional races that could be indicative of what's going on first let's go to kentucky three kentucky three is a race where there's an incumbent republican ann northrup she is now trailing with 37

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ann northrup she is now trailing with 37 percent of the precinct reporting so far 48 to 51 percent against john yarmuth her democratic challenger one out of three votes apparently cast so far let's go to kentucky two right now ron lewis is the incumbent republican uh facing a challenge from mike weaver only three percent of the precincts are reporting still very very early 53-47 percent these are republican seats obviously so if the democrats win these are pickups for the democrats uh hostetler in indiana john hostetler is facing a stiff challenge from his democratic opponent uh brad ellsworth only 13 percent of the precincts reporting but you can see in those 13 percent brad ellsworth doing a lot better than john hostettler these are three important seats we're going to be following these early on if the republicans are in trouble in these three seats where they are the incumbent they have the the seat in the house of representatives it could be indicative that the democrats are going to have a relatively good night we're going to watch those we can't project any winners yet but we're going to keep you up to speed on these and all the other close races let's bring in paulus on she's watching together with bill schneider some of the exit polls we're getting some indications of what's going on in the country paula we're getting some really interesting numbers wolf out of virginia right now and bill and i have been fascinated by them as we've heard our team across the newsroom talk about how hotly contested this race is and in particular all the controversy surrounding some of the comments and and some of the writings of the democratic candidate james webb take a look at these numbers about how women voted of course james webb criticized by his opponent for writing things that were out and outright he said disrespectful of women he had written an article in the late city 70s suggesting women can't fight 56 percent of women voters actually voting for james webb what does this

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voting for james webb what does this mean none of those attacks work none of the did not work women traditionally vote democratic in most states including virginia and webb kept that women support 56 percent that's clearly a victory for webb among women because allen's effort to discredit him with women voters doesn't seem to have paid off now we also asked these voters as they came out of the polls after they cast their votes of those who had served in the military who did they vote to and it broke down like this the incumbent senator george allen with 43 percent of that vote actually we have these numbers uh flipped here we haven't quite moved it was 57 for george allen 42 for james webb what happened these are veterans now they could be voting for james webb because james webb was the secretary of the navy james webb is a decorated hero and a veteran of the vietnam war he might have done very well with veterans but this is if women were a breakthrough for webb the veterans vote was a breakthrough for george allen george allen the republican carried 57 percent of the veterans vote in virginia despite the fact that webb is a decorated veteran and a former naval secretary and of course we've just gotten this news this that this ban on a gay marriage amendment has passed we have a sense now of how that also broke too that favoring very interesting the ban on gay marriage passed in virginia but 30 percent so far among voters interviewed at the polls 30 percent of those who voted for the ban on same-sex marriage also voted for jim webb the democrat so while it certainly delivered a lot of votes for allen 69 of the supporters of the ban voted for allen almost a third of them voted for webb so it wasn't totally determinative and we should make it very clear wolf we have another wave of exit polling coming into us at this hour but i think it is fair to say that it appears as though this race at least is trending uh towards issues of national interest and it wasn't driven by local issues not all

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it wasn't driven by local issues not all politics not necessarily being local paula you've got that right all right thanks very much jeff greenfield i wanted to come up with me i want to talk a little bit uh jeff about these house races because this will be an early indicator of what is going on specifically let's talk about indiana the

eighth district the so-called bloody eighth because there's been some incredible partisan fights about recounts and upon recounts and that one brad ellsworth by the way is a county sheriff and a social conservative so this may be one of those races where democrats are electing people who are not quite the model of what people think of as liberal democrats this was considered one of the most vulnerable republican seats in the entire country hostetler doesn't take pac money he's a bit of a his critics call him eccentric he calls himself his own man and republicans have been worried about this race from the very very end it's only 13 of the precincts reporting uh if we move down only three percent in this race over here the republican ahead but three percent is a very very small number of precincts reporting more interestingly over here and northrop the incumbent republican is behind by three percentage points with 37 percent of the precincts reporting this is a swing district john kerry narrowly carried it in 2004 and northrop was elected in 96 by a sliver tom delay put her on the appropriations committee as a freshman so that she could bring home the bacon or if you prefer the pork and she while she's a conservative she has always run on her delivering the goods for her even as you're speaking 55 of the precincts now reporting and north rip up at 50 john yarmuth down at 49 so it's going back and forth but if you look at the aggregate the total numbers there are there there's a relatively small number of difference right right now this is only about half of the vote in we're not going to be calling this race i want to walk over to the senate to the board your smart board why don't you go over there and give our viewers a sense because as we know 15 seats the democrats need to pick up 15 seats in the house of representatives but they need to pick up six

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need to pick up six in the united states senate that's going to be a lot more difficult right let's do the quick chalk talk there are 100 seats in the u.s senate 33 of them are up for reelection 17 democrats 15 republicans and this one seat interestingly jim jeffords the retiring republican turned independent will be succeeded by bernie sanders an independent who will come already projected that bernie sanders will be the next united states senator from vermont exactly so and there we go bernie sanders will win bernie sanders will caucus with the democrats he is the only self-avowed socialist in the united states senate bernie sanders uh and he um he also has the thickest new york accent of any vermont senator probably in history he's originally from brooklyn right but if i can just show you the other things that we're doing here of the 33 seats we believe 24 are beyond doubt we could be surprised which leaves nine seats that will decide the senate seven held by republicans those are the seats that are circled in red two held by democrats new jersey and maryland those are the seats circled in blue when we call a state when we project this state i beg your pardon and we have to be careful with that when we project a winner we will color in that uh state by the blue for democrat red for republicans so right now seven republican seats two democratic seats those are the seats that will tell us who runs the senate uh starting next january virginia clearly being very important the polls have closed in the commonwealth of virginia but we don't know whether george allen will be re-elected or jim webb will be elected the united states senator from there it is astonishing to remember that just a few months ago allen was considered a walk-over winner he was going to run up the margins to get ready for a presidential campaign in 2008. now he is struggling to survive the whole issue and as we look at this control if it's 50 50 a lot of our viewers are probably wondering 50 democrats 50 republicans explain to them what happens then it happened in fact after the 2000 election if the senate splits 50 50

[01:02:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=3720s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=3720s)

election if the senate splits 50 50 vice president dick cheney decides who controls the senate it is expected he will vote republican i think that's a fair projection but if he does and we go back to what happened after 2000 while the republicans will chair all the committees they will engage if they do what they did six years ago in power sharing they will give the democrats an equal number of seats on each committee and they'll give them virtually equal funding standby we're going to take a quick break we have a lot more to talk about just want to remind our viewers what's going on six six seats that's what the democrats need if they want to be the majority in the united states senate 15 seats they need to pick up in the house of representatives if they want to be the majority there we're watching all of these races the results are now beginning to come in in those states where the polls are closed we're gonna have a lot more of that coming up we're also gonna

take you to washington to an internet cafe the tryst where a group of bloggers have now gathered to update their readers on the internet on what's going on this is something you'll see only here on cnn at the bottom of your screen you'll be able to constantly see what's going on as far as the balance of power is concerned in the senate in the house of representatives much more of our special coverage from cnn election headquarters here in new york right after this we're back as america votes 2006. our coverage continuing you're looking at the the great wall here in cnn world headquarters north carolina ohio west virginia displayed prominently on the map you see the numbers 11 23 as the countdown continues toward the closing of polls 7 30 p.m eastern and those in those states and we'll be bringing you those results wolfe will have the latest as soon as

[01:04:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=3840s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=3840s)

wolfe will have the latest as soon as those polls do close now in just a little over 11 minutes we are we're pleased that cnn is hosting a very important party in washington d.c a party for uh the most important bloggers or certainly a lot of them in washington dc because those bloggers have played a very very important role in this campaign and election so we're gonna turn to uh to abby tatton who is there uh as hostess uh and uh we'll turn it over to you abby hi there lou yeah here we are at tris this is an internet cafe here in washington dc we've been joined by about 30 prominent bloggers left and right and as you said these are people who have been really getting involved in this cycle they have been fundraising online using new online tools they have been getting together to make sure people are getting out the vote in the last few days even having contests to make sure people are doing that and i'm surrounded right now by a group of bloggers left and right we've got bob cesca right down here from the huffington post a couple of representatives here from america blog both of those blogging on the left there and then we've got behind me here mary katherine hamm from town hall ed morrissey there from captain's quarters and we're going to be talking to them throughout the evening about what they're seeing uh how they're reacting and also what they're hearing from their readers what we've seen on many of these blogs left and right today is reports from around the country of some voting problems some turnout that kind of thing the issues of people what people are seeing on the ground i know jackie schechner is also here with me she's talking to a few bloggers behind me right now jackie well i mean one of the things that people always ask us are why are blogs important why do we cover blogs and one of the answers that we both give is that it's just disparate voices diverse voices i want to introduce you to jarelyn merriitt who blogs at talkleff.com she's actually a criminal defense attorney and one of the things she's looking at today with the voter irregularities or the differences in how states are handling

[01:06:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=3961s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=3961s)

differences in how states are handling it what have you blogged about with regard to this well in colorado a judge has refused to keep the voting polls open late even though there's been so many problems whereas in ohio the judge near cleveland ordered 16 precincts to stay open until 10 pm so not only are there irregularities all over the country but the courts are treating them differently are you finding that most of your readers come for that sort of analysis from you yeah they come for that more than they do the number crunching as you know in terms of the predictions i'm not a poll you know i don't do the the polling crunching but i do do the analysis and the results and what it means and where the problems are in particular that's what's so wonderful about gathering together all of these people in one room is they all have different niches and different specialties and we've got liberals and we've got conservatives and you can go on to cnn.com forward slash blog party and that's got a link to all of the blogs that are in this room and i'm telling you it is an unbelievably impressive list of very smart people and they're actually furiously blogging right now anderson but we certainly know that there will be some conversation as it gets more heated all right we'll be watching the vlogs thanks very much for that what kind of power do the blogs have this time around what is their track record been thus far well we'll see ned lamont was certainly one of those that got attention through the blogs there was a lot of complaints from inside connecticut running against joseph joe lieberman who beat joe lieberman in the primary democrat joey rooney now running as an independent exactly and it looks as though if the polls were right going into this poll it looks as though lieberman might win pretty handily uh

this then ends up being in that negative i mean for the for bloggers and those who pushed uh the lamont they're very anti-war sort of left uh kind of bloggers the other example we have is howard dean what what's happened with bloggers is they've proven very effective at raising money and funneling it uh towards campaigns they've yet to kind of turn a race that we can say well we've had to change the way we communicate because of the blogs for better or for worse the exit poll people were sequestered in a room no blackberries no

01:08:00 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=4080s>)

blackberries no cell phones no nothing because in the last campaign the early wave of the exit polls leaked out was spread like wildfire on the internet and the blogs turned out they were wrong so you had this discussion going on all around the country about the kerry administration and the kerry inaugural and who would be in the carry cabinet and it turns out the exit polls were wrong and it's sort of embarrassing you have that information out there it's communicated so rapidly and you can't get it back one person cannot go on and say hey guess what this wave was wrong when it's all over the blogs and all over the internet so it has changed the way we do business they had to lock everyone in a room this time to keep it from leaking early marcus i mean i think clearly these guys have a real impact both the left wing and the right wing blogs and i think what's interesting is while we you know in the mainstream media and in the case of newsweek the dead tree media as they call us in the print world while we try to stay balanced and have this kind of objectivity what makes these folks listen to and read and um and linked to which is important in that blog world is the fact that they do give opinions and people look for that and that's let's talk about ned lamont in connecticut has he been able to obviously did very well in the democratic primary uh with the far left voters has he been able to reach some of those more centrist voters from those independents those they tend to at least the last sort of internals that we looked at with joe lieberman was that his basic support was coming from republicans and after that it was coming from independence and after that it was coming from democrats so democrats were the least likely to support joe lieberman but uh if i remember correctly a very high number of independents were supporting him so lamont has reached out to a certain extent it may not be enough to overcome all the republicans that are supporting lieberman and he is a vehicle for a fascinating dynamic that will carry out through the results of this election and through what happens to the democrats after this election like howard dean he was the favorite of the liberals he was the anti-war candidate in the race it got him the nomination he knocked off united states senator in the primary if he loses the election many will say is this enough what is how does the democratic party decide to deal with the war if nancy pelosi is speaker there are three or four or five different views on the war within her caucus what will the democrats in the senate do

01:10:00 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=4200s>)

what will the democrats in the senate do so ned lamont is a vehicle for the anti-war debate within the democratic party that if they get power tonight will be much more important because they will then have responsibility and what we have been seeing in races around the country really is that this has been a national race in many ways uh we're seeing that also in the exit polls look for that let's go to paul and bill paula thanks so much and we're just beginning to find out from talking to voters as they left the polls what they ranked as issues of chief concern to them and when we posed the question how important were these specific issues to your vote this is what they had to say 41 percent said corruption 40 percent said terrorism 39 percent of the economy 36 said iraq now these are pretty closely lumped together i think a lot of people might have thought that iraq would have had a higher number what this says is it was a national election but it was a multi-issue election iraq was not the single dominant issue 36 percent said it was extremely important but just about as many said corruption terrorism and the economy were also extremely important and we found that among those voters who cited iraq predictably they voted heavily democratic those who cited corruption voted heavily democratic some surprises on those other issues there are some real twists that a lot of people weren't expecting specifically when it came to the economy and we asked those voters those who voted democratic and republican how important that was to them let's see what we found out 60 percent said the economy as democrats was important 38 percent as republicans now republicans have

been out there particularly the president saying this is a great economy the stock market's up gas prices are falling these numbers don't reflect that they do not reflect their voters voting rewarding republicans for a good economy those who said the economy was extremely important that says 60 percent of them voted for the democrat which means there's a lot of anxiety out there yes stock my stock market is high gas prices are low but housing values people are nervous about wages are stagnant and people are worried about jobs

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worried about jobs democrats were hoping at least at this stage of what we're beginning to learn within this polling that that would be the case do you think republicans will be surprised by that number this early on they will be surprised because they thought the economy was their issue it was not their issue let's move on to the issue of terrorism and this is what voters who told us that 53 percent of them who voted republican that terrorism was extremely important 46 percent of the democrats this is really surprising not because republicans carried a majority of voters who said terrorism is important that was the issue republicans won on in 2002 and 2004. this time yes a majority of the voters who said terrorism extremely important did vote republican but only a bare majority 53 percent democrats got 46 percent of voters who said their top concern was terrorism that's a pretty good showing for democrats on an issue that's not supposed to be their issue so once again national issues seeming to drive a lot of races here this evening but as you can see wolf it is a whole range of issues that is affecting the phone i love this kind of information paula thank you very much we're going to keep watching it together with you bill throughout the night jeff these are four important congressional races that we're going to be watching very closely and some of the precincts you see a very small percentage of the precincts reporting but let's talk a little bit about each one three in indiana and then at the end we'll talk about kentucky chris ciccola joe donnelly this is one of the endangered republicans here's a case where if not all politics being local some politicians people in this district are very angry about a privatized toll road and the fact that the governor pushed the whole state to daylight savings time this may not mean much to unity but out there that's a very very big seeking his third term as the republican in indiana three right this was not one of the most endangered uh republicans this is mark suter versus tom harris i think it's fair to say that if this race were to go democratic the question we asked at the seven o'clock

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we asked at the seven o'clock it might be some sign that we're talking more of a wave than a trickle and it's only three percent of the precincts reporting indiana nine right over here eight percent of the precincts reporting another republican slightly ahead right now but it's very early well this is the third straight match-up between mike cedrille and baron hill uh sargel took the seat away from hill by about um i don't know a thousand fifteen hundred votes so that's where we are in kentucky three this race has been going back and forth 64 percent of the precincts now reporting in the democratic challenger slightly ahead of ann northrup uh and it's one of those seats that the democrats look at when they look at a national map that says except for the south we think we can compete everywhere this is one of the seats they really would love to take away from it from a 10-year veteran republican congresswoman and as remember only 64 we're going to take a look as we look at 7 30 coming up three states will be closing their voting in north carolina ohio and west virginia we're going to be watching these races very very closely north carolina ohio and west virginia ohio has got an incumbent republican endangered they have an incumbent republican senator mike dewine in danger they have ken blackwell the secretary of state the republican party for governor and we're going to be able to project some winners right now in west virginia robert byrd no great surprise the democratic senator he is easily reelected beating a challenge from john racey and in ohio we can now project a winner for the ohio gubernatorial race ted strickland the congressman running against ken blackwell we project that the democrat will be elected the next governor of ohio ohio has been a solidly republican state throughout the 1990s as i mentioned earlier been hit by scandal the economy has not been good ken blackwell the secretary of state that some democrats blame for tilting ohio unfairly to carry two years ago was the republican candidate for governor he is being replaced by ted strickland and we're going to have to watch to see

[01:16:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=4560s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=4560s)

and we're going to have to watch to see whether the ripple effect depending on how big strickland's margin is knocks off a bunch of republicans let's walk over to the senate uh this your so-called smart board over here robert byrd re-elected that was fully anticipated doesn't necessarily change the balance of power if i'm not mistaken robert brood is the longest-serving senator in the senate now that strom thurman retired after approximately two centuries i think if the democrats take the senate uh robert byrd would become president pro tem only three heartbeats from the from the white house but as you can see we long ago signed that that seat in west virginia robert byrd uh it wasn't really a contest they raised he tried to raise the age issue robert byrd has probably brought enough bacon or pork to west virginia to sink the state he's one of the great deliverers of federal largesse and he wins another term and so so far the balance of power in the senate has not changed the senators that have been reelected the incumbents bernie sanders elected in vermont replacing an independent he's an independent they caucus with the democrats and in indiana richard lugar and now in west virginia no change in the balance of power the democrats still need six republican seats in order to be the majority in the senate i think it's safe to say that the drama of the senate is yet to unfold i think pretty much the fact that for instance richard lucre had no democratic opponent was a pretty confident way of saying he was going to be reelected we're getting some videotaped in i want to show it to our viewers right now from democratic national committee headquarters uh in washington nancy pelosi the democratic leader in the house of representatives and rahm emanuel you see them in the middle study hoyer to rahm emanuel's left they're watching this very closely to see what's going on and fortunately you can see they're watching jeff greenfield on this videotape here they've got cnn up there which is uh encouraging that people are watching over there in washington d.c there's no doubt that nancy pelosi and rahm emanuel have a huge

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rahm emanuel have a huge huge stake in what's going on in the u.s house of representatives rahm emanuel the congressman from illinois he's been in charge of that congressional campaign committee that's been trying to get democrats elected and he's been over the past couple years aggressively recruiting democratic candidates that he and his colleagues thought could win and we'll see if that recruitment effort lou dobbs worked out well well it's certainly uh they say rahm emanuel was absolutely exhausted two days ago so let's uh see what the situation is in uh democratic headquarters where we have dana bash uh awaiting uh the outcome of this election like everybody else dana what's the mood well i don't think i've ever seen rahm emanuel exhausted but this could be at the test you know we saw a picture as you said a short while ago of democrats watching the returns uh the the person who is in charge of this rahm emanuel uh saying i'd rather be us than them that has been their message all day long really over the past several weeks and months especially you know there is sort of a game that politicians play we call it the expectations game they usually try to lower expectations especially on a day like today election day but they haven't been doing that at all as a matter of fact they've been bubbling with optimism upstairs from where i am right here at a hotel on capitol hill of the senate minority leader harry reid and the senator in charge of getting democrats elected on the senate side chuck schumer they're watching returns we're going to be able to go up and watch them soon a very different kind of approach to election night from the democratic side then the republican side we're with the democrats because the republicans aren't having any kind of event at all for the media and that sort of says a lot about where the democrats think they're going to go tonight versus where the republicans are but obviously we'll see how that how that turns out dana thank you very much anderson over to you thanks very much the the race in

[01:20:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=4800s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=4800s)

race in ohio for for governor were you surprised i'm not surprised because ohio is a cesspool this year the current governor the republican incumbent bob taft has pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor that's where bob may the congressman pleaded guilty to corruption charges was term eliminated though so he had to but the whole environment in the state is just horrible anti-republican and it is a place as jeff noted where the republicans have tried to build a party organization george voinovich was the mayor of cleveland went on to

become the governor of ohio mike dewine who's in a very tough race tonight many believe he will lose that race hasn't done anything to put himself out of step in ohio except for the war maybe but it's just an awful environment of the state right now but this is key to democrats trying in 1994 when the republicans won big they won all the big state governorships too and that was the key to republican dominance of the debate not just in congress but across the country in the 90s welfare reform issues like that balanced budget the democrats are trying to do that again they have the michigan governor they want the ohio governor they have the pennsylvania governorship now that is how the democrats looking ahead on how to build from 2006 into 2008 they want those big jobs in the senate race in ohio it has uh it has been very contentious sherrod brown mike dewine it's been very hard it's just as john said it's just a tough road a hoe for mike dewine who is not all that disliked in the state it isn't somebody that they this is just a pure message thing he is the wrong guy in the wrong place uh we we talked to some people out there in terms of uh the think tank and the politicians out there who say look at some level everybody in ohio knows that mike dewine isn't responsible for the war in iraq i mean it's not his to conduct on the other hand they want to say something here this is a state full of angry voters and this is as close as they can get to george bush do you agree with that absolutely i think it's going to be interesting i think one one not really funny thing for ken blackwell certainly uh is the fact that he was at the center as secretary of state uh in the last presidential election of a lot of controversial things that happened on election night uh especially you know people like kenyan college where the kids had to

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kenyan college where the kids had to wait in line all night in the rain until midnight some still didn't get the vote and lots of african-american districts and he is an african-american himself people weren't able to vote at all because of mishaps because of broken machines because of a lack of ballots so i think a lot of people are feeling a little shodden for it tonight the other race that we're following very closely of course in virginia between george allen and and jim webb we're starting to get some raw votes from that racing we're going to have that uh right after this short break we're now 22 minutes or two some 23 minutes away from polls closing in some key races in missouri and tennessee in maryland we'll be covering all that ahead as our election coverage continues stay tuned [Music] we're only about 19 minutes away from the top of the hour and look at the 16 states at 8 pm eastern will be closing the voting in 16 states including some states that have major major senate contests that could determine the balance of power in the united states senate including in pennsylvania and new jersey we're going to be watching all of those races very very closely maryland specifically as well connecticut joe lieberman had been way ahead in the polls we'll be seeing how he does once these states close their polling in only about 18 or 19 minutes or so from now well i want to show our viewers the actual vote that is coming in right now from virginia only a small percentage six percent of the precincts reporting only six percent reporting george allen the incumbent with 57 to jim webb with 42 but remember it's still a very very small percentage of the vote and we don't know and this is very important to remember to remember we don't know where these votes are coming in whether they're coming in from the northern

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they're coming in from the northern part of the states the suburban northern virginia suburbs of washington dc which is pretty much democratic as opposed to the southern part of the state in norfolk and virginia beach other places in the southern part of virginia where the state is largely republican so once again with seven percent now of the precincts reporting alan is ahead but it's still very very early in this critical contest uh anderson if the democrats hope to become the majority in the united states senate virginia could be key it certainly could seven percent of precincts reporting though we should keep that in mind as we check out those numbers let's talk to some of our analysts uh james carville's gone walkabout i think but we'll start with that with bill bennett uh what are you looking for in virginia tonight well uh obviously very close race razor razor thin so we'll we'll see what happens but i'm looking to see what the exit polls say what the voters say how it breaks on the war whether they believe jim webb uh was a credible guy or not i think allen was coming on at the end he had a terrible campaign a lot of it self-inflicted but i think he was coming on stronger at the

end webb is a very interesting democrat candidate given the background uh marine worked for the reagan administration so it's a different look i recommend the look it's a smarter look smarter look for the democrats but he famously was wearing his son's combat boots all throughout this campaign that's right but i think some some questions about webb were raised and the question of his consistency on issues i think is a doubt in people's minds that's what i heard from some independence you're trying to hammer that home especially in these last days saying that that web is basically grab bag they don't really know where he stands sort of echoing the flip-flop of john kerry yes and the good reviews that alan got pretty much a bipartisan way as a governor uh good for virginia knows virginia he was he was hitting all the points he wanted to give a quiz to webb about virginia places in the last few days but webb wasn't buying jc watts the fact that in virginia this uh this ballot initiative banning same-sex marriage has passed is that going to help george allen well you would you would think it would but i

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you would you would think it would but i think the thing that helped uh senator allen more than anything i think was his organization you know in the rural communities you know that's where his vote is outside of northern virginia that's where the strength of his vote is he's been very well organized in those areas i understand webb has been less organized in those areas that could be um that could be the difference paul yeah you know it's the the single dopist cliché on election night right it's all about turnout it's not really all about tournament it's about who turns out where what virginia votes right will it be that rural virginia that jc just talked about which is very conservative and maybe they'll be inspired to vote by this anti-gay uh constitutional amendment or will it be northern virginia the prosperous suburbs there outside of washington d.c which delivered the last two democrats to the governorship in richmond and it looks like i mean i live there and i vote there now and i was surprised in my you know upper income mclean suburb the line was really long to vote today much longer than it usually is in a midterm that's a good sign for a guy like webb who's a democrat want he needs that that northern virginia suburban vote to win james i think the big thing for our viewers though is is that if webb does not win the math becomes awfully difficult for the democrats to take to send it back so this is absolutely essential as you're watching this race tonight if webb loses to allen the math is just really hard for the democrats because they need i mean they need 6 16. they need six total and assume that they pick up the big four pennsylvania ohio rhode island and montana they have to win two out of three in missouri tennessee and virginia you lose virginia to make the mass starts working it gets you bad so virginia's very critical you all agree with that bill bennett absolutely and i think tennessee is probably gone we don't know we don't have any numbers yet it looked that way so they pretty much have to have to take virginia and um and uh missouri right that's right it's absolutely critical so watch this one all night we will we will let's go back to wealth anderson thanks

[01:28:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5280s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5280s)

anderson thanks i want to update our viewers on some actual numbers actual votes that are being tallied in these key states republican by and large republican incumbents that could be endangered we'll start off jeff with kentucky the second district in kentucky we see a very close uh race there with nine percent of the precincts reporting right that and that one is is way too early to project as indeed armed mostly if i may i'd like to bring you over to kentucky four because this is a race where ken lucas who retired he's a democrat retired a couple of years ago jeff davis took the seat ken lucas boasts on his website he's a democrat that he was one of the most conservative members of the house he's one of those people who's not sure he's going to vote for nancy pelosi if the democrats do take a majority that's one race we're going to be keeping only one percent of the precincts reporting there so it's still way too early but in kentucky three this is one that's been going back and forth if you take a look with 74 74 of the precincts reporting and north up with 48 john yarmuth with 51 once again almost three quarters of the vote in if memory serves that's exactly the percentage by which kerry beat bush in that district in 2004 and it's one of the reasons why democrats were hopeful about that district you can also see down on indiana eight as i mentioned earlier one of the most vulnerable republican seats in the entire country brad ellsworth the county sheriff with 23 percent of the vote in that's obviously too early to uh to project still holding a a substantial lead over john hoss these are all

basically republican incumbents that you see all of these races here that the democrats have targeted and if we go to indiana nine for example take a look at mike saudrel's race right there with 21 percent of the precincts reporting this is a seat that simply cannot make up its mind i think we should call this the hamlet of congressional districts sadr won that seat by about 15 or 1600 votes two years ago hillary two years before i think this may be if we live to be 100 they'll still be running against each other to try to figure out who should take that seat let's hope we both live to be 100 in

[01:30:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5400s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5400s)

let's hope we both live to be 100 in indiana too i want to take a look at chris cicola's race he's the incumbent republican in indiana seven percent of the precincts reporting it's about as close as it gets 51 49 but way way early right and i i think you you know we're going to wait obviously a while once these votes come in i really think we're going to have some picture about whether the republicans were able to withstand some of this wave or whether they fell to it because and chris cicola is the is the seat that a lot of republicans and democrats have pointed to to say watch that seat and you may know something about national trends if there's a early trend we might in these uh in these eight seats right here there's an early trend for against the republicans or the democrats we might be able to get that information fairly soon i want to bring in the numbers that we're getting now from virginia and take a look and see that how this actual contest george allen and jim webb now 10 of the vote is now in we don't know which precincts are reporting whether the northern part of the state the southern part of the state but right now with 10 percent of the vote in george allen has 55 percent to jim webb's 44 and obviously still a long way to go 90 of the precincts haven't yet reported we're going to continue to watch virginia indiana kentucky all of these states a lot more of our coverage coming up right after this short break we'll be right back [Music] we're back with about seven and a half minutes remaining before about 16 states 16 states set to close their polls and we're looking forward to that and jack cafferty is looking forward to the results and has a few questions about what happens next where do we go from here miles to go before we sleep and it's much too early to begin to decide who's going to win this thing but

[01:32:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5521s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5521s)

decide who's going to win this thing but if we get up tomorrow and the democrats are in charge of either one or both houses of congress what's the plan uh where are they going to take us and are they going to be able to get there a lot of people wonder whether there is a plan the first thing that a lot of people would hope that they would do would be to address the lack of checks and balances in the federal government we haven't had a lot of that in the last five or six years the war in iraq of course looming very large one of the most important issues in the exit polling today with a lot of the voters and they would like that addressed a lot of people want the troops pulled out of iraq or at least some sort of plan for a partial if not a complete drawdown as far as domestic issues there are tons and tons of those the open borders immigration reform all the stuff that this last congress failed to get around to education social security medicare health insurance the deficits the list just goes on and on and on arguably the least productive and one of the worst congresses we've had in our 200 plus year history fortunately they're on adjournment right now and waiting to see if some of them will be unemployed by tomorrow morning and of course the other big big possibility in all of this is if the democrats feel frisky and have enough political muscle to do so they could launch a series of formal investigations into some of the shenanigans if you will that the bush administration has pulled off in the name of the war on terror so the question becomes this if the democrats get control of the congress what should their priorities be you can email your thoughts to caffeinefile at cnn.com or go to cnn.com cafferty file lots of options a lot of options it'll be interesting to see what people have to say i guess you're operating on the principle that no one of us is as smart as all of us here well i suppose that's a safe place to to take safe harbor in these times you know it's discouraging already we're hearing problems with the voting machines judges getting involved in this stuff we're 230 some odd years old and and here we go again and it's just so sad you know that

[01:34:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5640s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5640s)

so sad you know that we can't seem to figure out how to vote our people in to run the country well we certainly can't seem to figure out how to count them accurately and uh and fairly uh in in all jurisdictions i was talking to warren stewart of voter trust usa earlier who's an expert on this an activist on e-voting machines and he thinks we're going to see more problems tonight rather than fewer i'm sort of holding on to the thought that things are going to work better over the course of the evening evening rather than worse what do you think after going all the way back to 2000 and the hanging chads and here it is 2000 almost 2007 that we could have figured some of this stuff out i got there's there are flies out there in the jars appointment that haven't been addressed sometimes just that little paper ballot might have worked just pretty well despite all the fancy technology but i also happen to think of all the folks across the country whether they were in ohio or they were maryland laughing at those poor folks down in valusa county florida in 2000 and in palm beach county they were the laughing stock of the country remember you don't hear so many chuckles anymore no they're getting it done or at least so far okay thank you very much and i can't wait to see what folks have to say we'll have the email answers in a bit looking forward to it anderson over to you we're just four minutes away from the eight o'clock poll closings a number of states and one of the main races we've been looking at where the polls close at 7 pm of course is in virginia george allen against jim webb candy we were talking about you know some 12 or 13 percent of the precincts have only reported in virginia so the numbers uh you have to look at them with that eye big problem is though we don't know where those precincts are exactly i mean we know for instance where webb should be strong and that's in that northern virginia area nova era is they call it that's a suburb of washington really and we've been talking about the affluent democratic voters paul was talking about it so if for instance the the vote that we're seeing now includes a lot of those votes well i can tell you that allen's in big trouble but it's you we just don't know where those votes

[01:36:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5760s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5760s)

you we just don't know where those votes are coming from the real vote so when you see something that is sort of looks like this big a gap you have to sort of look at it and realize that we just don't know where they're coming is talking about it right there is the vote board 53 for allen 46 for web but again look at the bottom right hand corner of the screen 16 of the precincts reporting and as candy repeatedly saying we don't know exactly where those precincts are two minutes 45 seconds away from the 8 o'clock poll closings huge senate races to talk about new jersey pennsylvania tennessee missouri maryland a lot can be determined in this next hour missouri and tennessee two of the races the democrats probably need if they are to take control maryland one of the states where republicans thought hey can we take a seat that's held by the retiring paul sarbanes ben cardin the congressman is running for it michael steele the african-american lieutenant governor he was close he ran a very good a very great race uh the most interesting ads maybe of the whole campaign republicans are hoping very much for that one michael steele really positioning himself as an outsider as as an anti hoping that the vote was anti-incumbent as much as it might have been anti-bush absolutely and the amazing thing about michael still you'll hear hear this from the republicans on our expert panels behind us but the amazing thing about this candidate is the republicans have high hopes for this candidate if he is successful and he actually has received the endorsement of some democratic officials from prince george's county african-american democrats if he's successful in reaching black voters then can melbourne's dream of a truly big ten republican party is alive and well despite what happened in katrina and the loss of faith from african-americans ironic though a lot of folks in the white house have high hopes for michael steele and yet when asked is he a proud bush republican he said he's a proud republican uh not using uh bush's name uh let's go check out the board with wolfe all right anderson six uh 16 states about to close their polling actually 15 pennsylvania is going to wait for an hour but jeff greenfield you've got four questions that we want to look at as we approach 8 p.m on the east coast i do as we just heard how did race play uh did it is it going to hurt harold ford jr and tennessee might it help michael steele in uh in maryland uh question two

[01:38:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5880s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=5880s)

in uh in maryland uh question two have democrats found a social values issue embryonic stem cell research is on the ballot in that tight senate race in missouri gay marriage hurt them on the ballot no for maybe this embryonic stem cells help them question three the lieberman factor is an independent going to win are the net routes the bloggers who pushed ned lamont and helped him win that democratic primary going to be happy or disappointed and the final question will reverse coattails doom the pennsylvania gop their republican candidate for governor is running far far behind there are endangered republican house members in pennsylvania just as there are in ohio we'll find out and they've decided to keep the polls in pennsylvania open for an extra hour in two counties and as not in all of the state in two counties where there were some problems as a result we're not going to project any winner in pennsylvania until 9 00 pm on the east coast at the earliest because we don't want to interfere with the voting in those two counties in pennsylvania where there were some earlier problems requiring them to go ahead and keep the polls open for an extra hour didn't even know that he was up for re-election we can project ted kennedy will be re-elected the united states senator from massachusetts take a look at these other senate races though where we are unable at this point to project a winner in maryland between michael steele and ben cardin in tennessee bob corker harold ford jr cannot project a winner jim talent or claire mccaskill in missouri can't do it there either or in new jersey for that matter between tom kane jr or bob menendez the incumbent democrat we're going to have to wait and see the actual results that come in we'll be able to weigh that with the exit poll numbers that we received but in these four battleground states as well as in connecticut by the way at this point we could not project a winner yet joe lieberman is the incumbent the democrat turned independent precincts coming in now that the state is closed but ned lamont is the democratic challenger alan schlesinger not much of a factor

[01:40:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6000s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6000s)

alan schlesinger not much of a factor according to all of the polls i want to update our viewers now on what's happening in the commonwealth of virginia right now with 23 percent of the vote now in take a look at this jim webb has 50 percent of the vote to uh george allen the incumbent republican with 49 percent of the vote uh almost a quarter of the precincts now reporting jim webb slightly slightly ahead of george allen but it's still very early these numbers are constantly changing right now 50 percent for webb 49 for allen with some 23 percent of the precincts reporting and we're going to be showing you these numbers it was billed as a very very close race in virginia and by all accounts it's emerging as about as close as it possibly can be we don't know and i want to caution our viewers we don't know the 23 of the precincts that have reported in virginia we don't know if that's from the northern part the southern part what part of the state that's coming from because clearly there's a greater tradition especially in the recent years of democratic strength in the northern arlington county alexandria the suburbs of washington dc as opposed to the southern part of the state where it's more traditionally conservative and republican uh anderson this race in virginia emerging as exactly as billed uh absolutely and candy you pointing out uh it's very possible that some of the city precincts reporting the fact that jim webb now has just popped up it will it it jumped pretty uh substantially from 16 percent to with about 23 percent of that so that's says that you know you've got a large amount of votes there which says to me city uh let's talk about the the race uh in missouri jim talent claire mccaskill another race which has been very closely watched has been very close uh and and at this point uh in the last several days too close to call right i think we're going to be counting that one into the night it's a it's a bellwether state we call it that for a reason it has just about everything you look for it has the urban vote in st

[01:42:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6120s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6120s)

look for it has the urban vote in st louis in kansas city it has farm country it has the bible belt in the southern part of the state this could be one of the states there was a lot of talk about how the president couldn't go to a lot of the most competitive races he wasn't invited to some of the most competitive races well he was invited to this one in the end he went to springfield and in joplin down in the conservative bible belt areas if senator talent can pull this out and win re-election he might owe a thank you to the president united states it might be one place where he has an impact and both these candidates have a history of very close races missouri has has a history of close races and so neither one of them were very bothered by it we loved it because we

love closed races smack in the middle of the country in a bellwether state i mean you know it's it's something we sort of live for what's been interesting here again is the rural vote because mccaskill when you talked to her about him several of us were out there over the course of the last six months has been going into these rural areas the democrats have ignored for years thinking that's the republican territory let's go back to the cities and the and the close in suburbs she's been down in those rural areas i said what did you talk about she said kitchen table issues they want to know how their kids going to get to college she said look iraq is an issue but these are economy questions inside the rural areas so she's made a real play there it'll be interesting to see if she can pull some out and yet the issue of embryonic stem cell research has certainly gotten a lot of attention in this race claire mccaskill supporting the ballot initiative that is on in the state to allow embryonic stem cell research in in missouri jim talon saying though he supports adult stem cell research doesn't support embryonic stem cell research this is this is why other than the closeness and tightness of this race this is why the national media and in fact the international media have been watching this state this year and it has to do with the fact that this was the stem cell research state this was where michael j fox and rush limbaugh got into uh you know a virtual fisticuffs over that issue uh and where rush limbaugh implied that michael j fox was actually imitating his illnesses from symptoms from parkinson's in order to help claire mccaskill it was a nasty nasty race and that degree the interesting thing is this was

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degree the interesting thing is this was on the few races where it was not the candidates who were being nasty i want to talk to some of our analysts over here about the issue of embryonic stem cell research how it's playing nationally uh bill bennett is this enough is this enough to bring people out to the polls it is in missouri it's um and we we understand it's very close but as close as the senate race and uh it is a very complicated initiative michael j fox confessed he had not actually read it many people who have read it think it is about cloning clearly about cloning and so people feel very strongly about it not not to beg the question but just to say that this issue is tied into a senate race about as intimately i think as any issue is in any senate race this is part and parcel with it after admitting that he hadn't read it on george stephanopoulos's show days later he said an interview with me that he actually had read and he did support it but initially he had not read it could always turn the paper in late when i was a professor do you think do you think it's likely we're going to see more and more of this issue in ballots across the states well i'll tell you what you're surely going to have people think through it before they put it on the ballot because i think the democrats understand they put it on the ballot thinking that would drive their vote and again it ended up driving republican votes as well because both in maryland as well exactly both sides are pretty intense on that issue just like iraq and so um i think it might have backfired on the democrats in that case because uh in the end it could maybe help gemtown very briefly think of backyard no that's as brief as i can be you can elaborate a little bit because look at the theatrics of it there are principled reasons to oppose embryonic stem cell research there are principled americans who do bill bennett is one of them but bill bennett was not the face and the voice of the anti-embryonic stem cell research debate it became rush limbaugh a drug-addled gas bag whose self-discredited that's good for claire mccaskill and i just talked to her campaign manager richard martin he says that turnout in the cities is very high they're very encouraged that in the angelo suburbs of eastern jackson county

[01:46:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6362s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6362s)

angelo suburbs of eastern jackson county which traditionally pretty democratic it should really care about stem cell research he thinks turnouts can be something like 70 percent so they think the stem cell thing is working big for them bill doing it's a nasty comment about russia it's his personal opinion that's fine rush happens to be very popular person rush also said he would apologize if he were wrong russia is also a native of the state of missouri and a lot of people listen to him and take him seriously and has good moments and is not so good well i i talked to some republicans and talked to people that really in the republican national committee they and they think turnout in rural missouri is very high paul talked to richard who's a heck of a campaign manager i think what you're going to see all across missouri there's going to be extraordinarily hard turnout but i expect that everywhere even where stem cell is not on the ballot i think i think we're we're

an election of a really high turnout and i think late on the night we're going to be saying this is really a remarkable election i've heard stories all around the country about high turnout in rhode island there was a casino initiative and they spent a lot a lot of money getting the vote out in some democratic areas so some rhode island democrats that i've talked to seem to be very encouraged about that that turnout so i'm getting reports from all around and all of it says on both sides high turnout uh jim carl thank you very much lou dobbs has been talking to correspondents who are deployed all throughout the country let's go back to him lou thank you very much anderson one name dominated for two weeks at least this campaign this midterm campaign and then of course the name of mark foley and we're going to turn to susan rojan who's at joe negron headquarters who is running against tim mahoney the democrat in that race and i'm going to turn if i may to you susan first because you have uh the the the punch mark foley for uh joe negron issue there and a racing who is we're looking at these numbers that are just changing this race looks uh looks pretty tight we've only got about 13 percent of the precincts reporting at this point uh give us your sense of what's happening there from negron headquarters

[01:48:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6480s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6480s)

happening there from negron headquarters well lou it is expected to be a very close race especially when the candidate himself joe negron is not even listed here on the official florida ballot his campaign had to try to encourage voters to punch foley for negron to hold their noses if they would and vote for joe negron otherwise so that their vote would not be wasted it's a heavily republican district lou but the democratic challenger tim mahoney has run a very great race it's expected to be a very close night here so we'll just have to see if enough voters did indeed punch foley for negron okay and as you can see on the board there foley and mahoney fully because of had to withdraw so quickly before the election unable to print joe negron's name tim mahoney obviously not too concerned about that right john zarrella that's right lou well you know tim mahoney a businessman this is his first election never run for public office before he's been running for about a year and a half and up until six weeks ago when the mark foley scandal broke no one knew who he was suddenly he was catapulted into the lead people felt like he might cruise to victory he never thought that a heavily republican district here for the last quarter century they have voted republican in this district he knew it was going to be a dog fight right down to the end that the numbers would tighten up and in fact they certainly have we don't expect to have a clear answer on how this race is going to turn until very late tonight uh this is going to be one of those hate to use that cliché lou but certainly a nail biter lou all right thank you very much john zarrella from mahoney headquarters susan rodgers from negron headquarters we'll be back with you i'm sure often and as john says into the wee hours tonight uh we're going to take a quick break here coming right up howard dean america votes 2006 continues in just one moment stay with us [Music]

[01:50:08 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6608s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=6608s)

welcome back to cnn election headquarters in new york take a look at this uh the virginia race these are actual precincts reporting 32 of the precincts have now reported george allen the incumbent republican with 50 percent jim webb the democratic challenger the former navy secretary during the reagan administration with 49 only a few hundred votes separate alan and webb this is about as close as it gets 32 percent of the precincts reporting we're going to watch this throughout the night we're also watching exit polls especially in florida right now paul is standing by with bill thanks so much wolf and earlier you projected that the incumbent democrat senator bill nelson was re-elected with 56 percent of the vote but what we are seeing emerge tonight is the tale of two bushes and it seems that voters are telling us tonight they like the governor a whole lot better than they like his brother the president take a look at what voters told us that they left the polls today from precincts all over the country 55 percent disapprove of the president's handling his job 44 approved now look let's look at how they measure his brother the governor and the numbers are quite striking the 66 percent approve 33 percent are actually 32 percent disapprove now look at this these are both florida voters 44 approval for george bush here's something interesting how do they feel about the war in iraq 44 supported 55 oppose it clearly the war is dragging him down jeb bush 66 approval i mean his brother

must be talking to jeb and saying how do you do that a good economy helps i was in florida uh for about a week in this election and the voters down there were talking about how good the economy is no war a good economy but jeb bush has

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no war a good economy but jeb bush has got to try to make sure he can't run again that the republican candidate for governor is elected to succeed him and right now that's charlie crist right now we haven't called that race it looks very close it seems like charlie crist was running away from the president yesterday as the president came to town to campaign on his behalf he went awol that's right but he might be running towards governor jeb bush who obviously is very popular in florida and another fascinating thing lou here is that in spite of some minor scanning problems reported in various precincts today and some delays that 83 percent of the voters said that they were confident that their vote would be tabulated accurately 16 not how things have changed from the 2000 election though absolutely let's hope they have in fact changed and we want to turn now to democratic national committee chairman howard dean at democratic headquarters in washington d.c good to see you how do you feel at this early point in this what appears to be the onset of a long election night well one of the things that we think is terrific is there's a huge turnout uh there have been some election year election funny business uh you know in maryland particularly which i know has gotten in the papers about some dirty tricks but uh seeing all those people come out to vote is a really good thing for the country and makes us optimistic because people we know people want change and it looks like they're acting on it tonight acting on it and the turnout as you suggest uh pretty high across every uh state that we've been able to judge at this point we are also seeing from these exit polls a a striking statement that the iraq is important as we knew but so is the economy and so is corruption uh putting if you will at least a pause if not the lie to the idea that this would be dominated by one issue that is iraq i think that's true i think the issue of corruption is an issue that the democrats have pushed very very hard on we we simply

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pushed very very hard on we we simply have too much corruption in our government too much corruption in washington one of the things that nancy pelosi has said should she become speaker is that she will within the first hundred hours have a real ethics legislation that will put a stop to some of these republican scandals i think that's going to be a very big help and i think that motivated people you know nobody likes dishonesty and corruption not republicans not democrats not conservatives not liberals so it's not surprising to me that corruption is one of the top issues we've seen that in our polling uh for about a year now i and i know that you're you're hesitant to make a forecast but give us at least a sense of where you think the direction is headed is it headed in your way or is it headed in the republicans is it in that in that direction for both the house and the senate or one well i just got off the phone with rahm emanuel and he and i agreed that you do not make forecasts and predictions until all the votes are in so um you know i think there's a lot of been great work been done the dscc the d triple c has done really good work of the state parties the coordinating campaign we've tried as hard as we can we think we've reached the american voters but now they get to say certainly the early indications look good but i think we're all prepared to stay up all night and watch to make sure and it looks like in a number of a number of states that we're going to be doing exactly that uh staying up all night the there is one other aspect in these exit polls to the degree that you can ever trust these exit polls and and and you can certainly over analyze and over conjecture but the idea that on the issue of the economy that we are those polls suggesting that just about evenly split amongst voters who say the economy is worse for them and those who say it is better but just about double that amount the great center saying it's about the same as it was two years ago any surprise for democrats on that um yeah i think that most americans we've been saying have not felt the impact of the dow

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not felt the impact of the dow jones industrial average going up in corporate earnings because the president has skewed our policy towards helping the folks at the top who really frankly don't need all that much help uh and i think one thing you're going to see should should we become successful tonight and taking back the house and the senate i think you'll see a reorientation of government policy to help middle-class people middle-class people's kids go to college working-class people to get ahead i think we've lost that in the last six years and we want that back again you know america is a great country but it only works when everybody benefits from a good economy not just not just the folks that are giving to the republicans my colleague john king has a question for you as well john governor dean good to see you i would say thanks john just the fact you're talking to rahm emanuel i think his progress in the discourse of the country tonight but well those guys have done a good job you got to take your hat off to them i want to move to the question of iraq if the democrats take control of one or both chambers of congress they will be in responsibility they can't just say the president has the wrong plan we need a new plan should the democrats try to cut off funding for the mission in iraq should they try to set specific timetables i think it's far too early to even think about that i mean we don't even have a majority yet i think we're you know we're not even going to have any discussions like that i know though there will be discussions about what to do about iraq because clearly the american public is voting not to stay the course they're not don't agree with the president but it's a long way we've got a long way to go here and i think it'd be a little premature to start talking about public policy before we don't even have a majority yet but do you worry you'll disappoint the voters if they turn out for democrats thinking they're going to get a change the president's still the commander-in-chief there's not much you can do even if you have both chambers of congress right that's that's true to a certain extent there's not a lot we can do to actually to force the president to leave iraq but ultimately we can have some influence and i think you'll see certainly an attempt by democrats to change the direction look not despite the republican propaganda none of us believe or very few of us believe we need to leave iraq tomorrow we do believe we shouldn't be in iraq we think it was a mistake to go there but we don't believe that we ought to cut and run as the president was so fond

[01:58:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7080s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7080s)

cut and run as the president was so fond of saying we believe that we need to stabilize the situation and leave in a thoughtful gradual way so i think you'll see the democrats uh moving to do that but they'll have to be some some disagreement and some strong impetus towards some kind of compromise with the president because the president seems determined to do what he wants whether no matter what the voters say and we clearly think that's a bad idea i if i may governor i want to bring it back to this evening and that is what are you if you won't make a forecast tell us what you uh are looking for is the best bellwether for the the democrats chances in this election tonight well there are two very very important states that we have to win in order to get the majority one is virginia and the other is missouri and they're both very close uh in the house it's a little more complicated because there's so many races and such flux my own personal belief is if we were to take three in indiana we would certainly uh win i think the whole thing if we were to take two out of three then we'd have to wait for a while but that would be a good indication but again you've got to look at the collar counties around philadelphia uh and then you've got to go out west there's there's two or three seats in arizona and new mexico we believe that patricia madrid is going to win that seat even though it's going to be very very close so again all over the country there's these races are close nobody should be making any predictions right now but we're hopeful okay uh howard dean thank you very much and uh living up to your own advice not making any kind of prediction thank you very much wolf over to you thanks very much lou we're ready to make a projection in the house of representatives in the state of indiana in the 8th congressional district the challenger brad ellsworth we project will be elected the next united states congressman from indiana the 8th congressional district beating the incumbent republican john hostettler this is the first of 15 pickups that the democrats would need if they're going to be the majority in the house of representatives this is

[02:00:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7201s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7201s)

in the house of representatives this is number one for the democrats this would be 14 to go jeff greenfield that's right this was this can't be counted as a surprise as i mentioned earlier hostetler was regarded as one of the two or three most vulnerable republicans anywhere in the country his opponent brad ellsworth is the kind of democrat that we may see more of particularly when you move away from the coast in the interior a county sheriff a self-acknowledged social conservative and it's one one down and 14 to go and with 39 of the precincts reporting now 62 for uh ellsworth 38 for host etler we project ellsworth will be elected to the united states congress a pickup for the democrats one pickup remember they needed 15 they have 14 to go we're going to continue our special coverage from cnn election headquarters here in new york lots more coming up we'll update you on what's happening in virginia where it's a very very close race we'll be right back [Music] as of 8 28 p.m here on the east coast cnn projects democrats have now picked up their first seat in the house of representatives cnn projecting that in indiana's 8th congressional district democratic challenger brad ellsworth has defeated the republican incumbent congressman john hostetler democrats will need at least 15 seats to gain control of the chamber they've got one of those assuming they don't lose any of their own seats they would need 14 more that's the first cnn projecting also right now that democrat deval patrick will win the governor's race in massachusetts defeating the republican lieutenant

[02:02:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7321s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7321s)

defeating the republican lieutenant governor carrie healey succeeding the republican governor mitt romney deval patrick becoming only the second african-american governor elected in the united states deval patrick we project will win the governor's race in the state of massachusetts anderson let's talk about this race brad ellsworth uh a surprise not a surprise because hostetler had a tough district anyway brad ellsworth is a different kind of democrat you might say it's very going to be interesting to see these conservative democrats come to washington if nancy pelosi becomes their leader and becomes the speaker because this is somebody who is anti-abortion anti-same-sex marriage wants to balance the budget so you're going to have a different democratic caucus if they become the majority it's going to be because candidates like ellsworth are winning across the country and it will be a test of her leadership she is a liberal from san francisco though she has said that what she says is the republicans don't listen to the diversity in their caucus and that she promises to listen to hers but it's a big challenge it does seem crazy that there are an awful lot of conservative democrats who have suddenly come to the fore well you know there's a lot of them now testing out sort of the template that's worked in the south i mean southern democrats uh have been in general on these social issues conservative on abortion on uh same-sex marriage uh interior west is another place where uh conservative social values combined with progressive economic uh policy has really worked and and john's absolutely right because the fact of the matter is that these are the new democrats they're kind of like the old democrats and then there was a time when they became something exactly so you know now these are the uh the neo democrats or whatever you want to call them um who have returned and they are going to be forced to be listened to here because guess what they're winning election marcus it was your magazine newsweek which had the cover of harold ford jr which said i think not your daddy's democrat that's right not your daddy's democrat i mean this is the interesting question here you know we always can have a tendency

[02:04:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7440s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7440s)

you know we always can have a tendency sometime when we over pundify perhaps uh on election night to talk about what's what what how the sweep of the nation has changed that's a bit of a danger but i got to tell you it's exciting to think about depending what these numbers look like by the end of the night could we see another refocusing or reshifting of the coalitions that make up the republican coalition and democratic coalition and this is the old democratic coalition and it'll be really interesting to see if it's coming back together getting the old band back together again let's talk to some of our brain trusts some of our analysts over here uh i don't know if you guys are old democrats or new democrats or daddy's democrats rapidly rapidly democrats is this what the democratic party needs to do in order to get elected yeah what we're going to see tomorrow morning to wake up the percentage of moderates in a democratic party is going to be much much higher than the percentage of moderates in the republican party i suspect by the time the night's over

mike castle will be a caucus of one republican moderate in the entire house of representatives the big i want to point out when people watching this watch this kentucky three this anne northrup the yarmouth race if the democrats pick this up that that's a that's a key to a big night that's one we've been trying to get for a long time and she's a very good candidate and that might be the first sign that you have a wave coming watch the crawl on the kentucky and northrop has has tried to distance herself from president bush as much as possible and just in the last week called for secretary rumsfeld to step down right what did joe lewis say he can run but he can't hide you know it doesn't work to run away from the president of your own party it doesn't work to embrace him i mean you just take your lumps when you have a year like this i saw this when i was advising bill clinton in 1994. you know he was desperately unpopular our policies were unpopular we lost over 50 house seats but i think james's point about moderates versus conservatives and liberals is pretty interesting one when the republicans took the congress in 94 it was with very conservative they call themselves the shock troops you know very and they they help pull their party to the right if nancy pelosi becomes a speaker it will be with moderate and conservative democrats who would tend to pull my party to the center uh very briefly jc well i i think nancy is going to have the same

[02:06:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7560s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7560s)

nancy is going to have the same challenge that the president has he's a drag on northeast republicans nancy will be a drag on southern democrats and it's going to be very interesting how she in a very sensitive way manages that well for your purposes your question aging republican but former democrat and the reason i left the party is if you look at the leadership of the democrat party today you'll find out i'm much closer to her brad ellsworth what happens when these new democrats come in and meet the leadership who's going to give we got to go over lou who's going to be talking to senator bill frist luke thank you very much anderson the man who is the majority leader of the senate obviously and the man also retiring making bob corker and harold ford jr's lives very interesting tonight senator bill perez good to have you with us hey lou great to be with you tonight with it's very early as the saying goes four percent it doesn't get much earlier than that but uh corker right now stepping out in front of harold ford jr what is your sense of the direction this race is headed lou well it's interesting i traveled around to a lot of the different states a lot of the contested races and what's unusual about this particular race in this particular state is that the contrast is crystal clear and a lot of the national issues did not come and resonate right here we had this choice between bob corker mainstream tennessee american dream right here versus harold ford a career politician went to high school college outside of the state so you see a clear-cut contrast on the economic issues bob corker strong on keeping taxes low harold ford who voted against the president's tax cuts so the clear-cut contrast i believe is why bob corker ultimately will win tonight the the exit polls are suggesting to us as they're coming in to us from around the country uh that this was a nationalized election that the democratic strategy certainly did work uh in making this a a referendum uh focusing national attention on the war in iraq uh corruption in congress if

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war in iraq uh corruption in congress if you will across the board national issues any of that surprise you uh no no it doesn't surprise me and i agree with that to a certain extent but again the contrast here you had harold ford who again was on the side of the democrats against the missile defense against the terrorist surveillance act against the patriot act versus a candidate who very much is fighting this war on terrorism with all of the tools that are there bob corker so that is the way the issue played here in tennessee and the tennesseans are speaking loud and clear and thus we'll have bob corker as our next united states senator senator first i'd like to if you would excuse me just for a second here i'd like to continue with uh how the folks in tennessee are speaking uh tonight and turn and let you know that uh here at cnn election headquarters we are now able to project in new jersey that senator bob menendez is the likely winner over tom kane jr his republican opponent bob menendez the incumbent senator appointed by john corzine the governor of uh new jersey menendez uh we now project as the winner in that race uh let's turn back uh senator first to tennessee for for a second here and understand your enthusiasm for bob corker again early lead for him in this in this race let's turn to what you think will be the determinate issue in this election harold ford jr has a reputation of being an extremely strong young energetic campaigner and candidate uh what's what's

determinant i think it's a good question here because harold ford is very charismatic really a smooth talker and a very good candidate and in that standpoint both candidates very attractive ultimately it's going to come down to bob corker being mainstream tennessee tennessee values the american dream created his business here made a payroll

[02:10:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7800s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7800s)

created his business here made a payroll and harold ford is a full-time politician career politician grew up in a family of politics and this history of citizen legislature out of tennessee like me like fred thompson is something that tennessee expects and that's what has deserved and i think that's the way they're gonna vote tonight and the issue of race uh in this uh in this uh campaign uh certainly creating some ugly moments uh to what degree do you think it plays a role you know i'll tell you what i heard coming out of the sort of media in washington in new york and even out of atlanta is that race was a big issue here in large part because of one ad that should been condemned but when you got on the ground here this simply never came up you know it's just not the issue that the national uh pundits made it to be and i say that very honestly asking reporters is race an issue are people moving it in that direction and i think after it's over with harold ford will also say the same thing that bob corker is that race was not a dominant issue here in any way in tennessee senator bill frist we thank you very much uh look forward to talking to you later in the evening thank you senator good to be with you america votes 2006 continues in just one moment stay with [Music] us welcome back to cnn election headquarters in new york we're watching very very closely the race in virginia right now with 55 percent of the precincts reporting it's about as close as it gets george allen with 50 percent jim webb 49 percent only a few thousand votes separate these guys it's been back and forth throughout the night we have projected a winner in new jersey bob menendez the incumbent democrat will be re-elected we're going to uh go over to the board jeff greenfield and

[02:12:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7920s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=7920s)

go over to the board jeff greenfield and talk a little bit about this bob menendez beating tom kane jr the son of a very popular former republican governor of new jersey this was a seat the democrats absolutely positively had to go ahead and win and when you look at the nine key seats that we've been talking about for weeks the democrats were very worried about what this was going to happen here john corzine when he left the senate to become governor appointed then congressman menendez to take his place there were people chuck schumer one of them the chairman of the democratic senate campaign committee who was pushing corzine to name another more popular democrat there were reasons within the state why corzine picked him this was one of the nastier races you've ever seen it was filled with cane commercials playing the audio tapes implying corruption on the part of menendez but i believe we're going to find the key to this race was george w bush menendez's campaign targeted tom kane is wrong on iraq a rubber stamp for bush it was the overwhelming message and in new jersey which has not elected a republican to the senate since 1972 it is as blue a state as you can get when it comes to the senate i believe that argument became decisive and the democrats have held one of the two most vulnerable seats of theirs the others being maryland which we can't talk about yet because we don't know but it is a major sigh of relief we've just heard coming from democratic headquarters just to be precise 33 senate seats are up for election this time around a third of the senate if the democrats are going to be in the majority they need to capture six and not lose any of their own they're a little bit of the way there because they didn't lose in new jersey but they still have to hold maryland they still have to then go ahead and capture six republican-held seats there are seven republican seats that are considered to be vulnerable the democrats have to do six or seven there's been a competition among journalists to find the right cliché they have to draw to an inside straight they have to run the table they have to hold out the 18th and three you and i should probably figure out what cliché is best but it is a hard road to hoe but at least with new jersey in the

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but at least with new jersey in the democratic column they they know that they they at least captured or kept what they had to keep at least one of those two seats and here's the actual vote jeff only five percent of the vote now the precincts now reporting uh actually tom kane juniors had 52 47 but we projected that menendez wins these five percent of the precincts probably are very republican dominated precincts that's why there is this distortion but based on the exit polls based on the hard numbers based on all the other information we are receiving we project that bob menendez the incumbent democrat will remain in the united states senate anderson it gets a little confusing from time to time but that's the nature of politics it certainly is let's talk to uh some of our analysts about about this race in new jersey about what they have seen about their any surprises it's a blue state it always closes blue for the for the democrats it's a little bit like uh lucy and charlie brown on the football republicans put about four million dollars into it at the end as they did in the presidential race a couple of years ago and at the end it always closes for the dems so it's a very blue state it's not it's not going to tip the balance of anything do you agree with uh james carville with jeff greenfield that it was really about iraq that bob and emes effectively hammered that uh yes yes and it just if you look at the last governor's race in this race democrats just win new jersey about big margins that's one of the shifts in american politics that was not true i think george h.w bush carried new jersey in 1988 it is decidedly in blue state now no surprises that that was not a seat that republicans felt like they were going to pick up at the end of the day that's not a seat that was counted on to keep republicans in the majority so i had nothing new it was going to remain blue and we thought it would and it did and certainly if it hadn't remained blue it would have been a big defeat for the democrats big shot more about blue than iraq but can i say something about virginia so i've heard about some exit polls in virginia about inroads apparently 35 40 of people who vote are

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apparently 35 40 of people who vote are voting for webb declare themselves to be christian evangelicals are opposed to the same sex marriage uh amendment and are going to web that's in rhodes i don't know if there is it's way too early to call anything but with this ellsworth thing and this and the opinion of these guys maybe some real genuine conservative movement in the democrat party what do we say the end of charism or the end of mcgovernism anyway it is it is an interesting trend it does seem to be moving back toward the center and again i think that raises interesting questions about what happens when these new conservative democrats whether they have a majority or not meet their leadership and anderson could i add something to them yeah let me just tell our audience uh schumer is addressing the dncc and we're going to be showing that let's dip in briefly and let's continue this conversation in a moment mendes and new jersey is in our corner too [Applause] and we are right now biting our nails about virginia which is neck and neck but i've been told by someone pretty authoritative that a lot of the northern parts of virginia uh where we're going to do very well have not yet been counted so let us hope so let me just say we're not going to speak for too long here but we really care about taking our country back about giving about changing the course in iraq overseas about helping average people pay the bills the tuition bills and the prescription drug bills and the health care bills and the energy bills and that is why we are so passionate and so concerned about this election we want to thank all of you we're not

[02:18:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8282s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8282s)

we want to thank all of you we're not breaking out the champagne bottles yet it's going to be a long night but so far so good and you've been listening to uh charles schumer addressing the uh the ncc you want to continue our conversation with bill bennett and jc watts uh bill bennett right before that pointing out that some 36 percent in in one exit poll that he has been hearing 36 of people call themselves evangelical or born-again christian voting for webb well and i that's that's a high number but it's not a number that totally surprises me because i i think there is a conservative vote out there in the evangelical community that anderson they're saying we because of our faith we do think people should be able to eat we are concerned about poverty we are concerned about aids in africa we are concerned about health care issues now we can have a discussion or debate about the models that we use to address those issues but i am concerned about poverty because of my faith not because of my republican party is that an expansion of what it means to be evangelical expansion well i i think what it's saying is is that that candidate republican or democrat that says we are

evangelical candidates when they are talking about those issues they will catch the ear of many evangelical voters i think the candidate web here is too many the people just described a more congenial figure for example then say chuck schumer is they would identify more with him the military service the so on the conservative background and that's the kind of thing that can really change politics worth in indiana yeah i think it's a great example do you see an intentional part an intentional strategy on the part of the democrats to appeal to those evangelical voters i would have i would defer to this end i don't know it's smart sure obviously and i think it's better for the country for that party to move to the center but i can't tell you that's what's actually happening there's a host of

[02:20:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8401s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8401s)

actually happening there's a host of poverty issues that jc talked about that appeal that democrats used to appeal to to christian evangelicals uh issues in the environment the evangelical community is becoming a very very green community and if if bill's exit poll is right and jim webb is getting 36 percent of the evangelical vote in virginia the home of jerry falwell and pat robertson that's extraordinary john kerry nationwide only got 21 percent of christian evangelicals so if webb is going to double that almost in one of the most conservative states in the country he's going to win you know christian evangelicals actually i'm sorry we just got to do a quick projection uh we can uh cnn is now projecting sherrod brown is the winner in ohio that it would be a senate pickup obviously for the democrats bill bennett what do you make of that well i i talked to mike dewine today yesterday tough ohio's tough ohio is tough for republicans all around he didn't have strong support from the base either he was part of this gang of 14 you remember this in the supreme court nomination so a lot of conservatives weren't happy with him some of the nra people were unhappy with him uh and he just got caught in the crosshairs brown i would have to say if i'm advancing a thesis of conservative democrats here they come sherrod brown ain't one of them no he's a populist i mean he ran on these meat and potato economic issues which in ohio pretty smart thing to do now he had the wind at his back because of corruption that did not involve senator derwyn but it involved his party and so i think brown capitalized on that but he is a meat potatoes minimum wage health care kind of democrat a populist i'm sorry anderson there's an elephant in a row iraq and we could we talk around it like it doesn't exist there's a horribly unpopular war here and that's the impetus for a lot of this and we can and and evangelicals are concerned about this and green voters are concerned about this and have this discussion without iraq is we're missing what i think is the driving point of this election this is a horribly unpopular war and it's not going very well and this is why you're seeing these democrats take these seats and in

[02:22:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8520s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8520s)

democrats take these seats and in jim webb's campaign as much as anything else more than any other single thing has been about iraq it is the elephant in a room it is what is driving this election and we're going to continue talking about iraq in just a moment obviously we're going to talk about an awful lot tonight as the voters are clearly talking about it tonight and have been for months now let's take a quick break our election continues [Music] we're only about five and a half minutes away from the top of the hour polls will be closing in several states we'll be making some projections at that time but this hour cnn is projecting that democrats have picked up their first seat in the united states senate cnn projects that democratic representative sherrod brown has also defeated an incumbent republican senator mike dewine in ohio cnn projecting that new jersey democratic senator bob menendez will be re-elected defeating republican challenger tom kane jr cnn also projecting the democrats so far have picked up one seat in the house in indiana's eighth congressional district cnn projecting democrat brad ellsworth has defeated republican incumbent congressman john hoss detler democrats will still need to pick up at least 15 seats to win control of the house but with this race with ellsworth winning jeff greenfield that's 14 assuming they don't lose any of their own but this is very significant sherrod brown the challenger to mike dewine defeating the incumbent republican this is the first of six seats the democrats need to be the majority in the senate assuming they don't lose any of their own seats a couple of keys to this mike dewine was an enormously popular senator he was he reelected six years ago with more than 60 percent of the vote

[02:24:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8640s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8640s)

vote apart from the scandals that hit ohio apart from iraq sherrod brown went into small towns and rural parts of ohio the places where george w bush rolled up huge majorities in all four and his message was a basic economic populist message anti-free trade or at least the way it's been done sounds a little like lou dobbs the middle class has been sold out by the elites and he has taken this seat it is one of the six and it's one of the ones that republicans were most worried about but the fact that their vaunted turnout machine which delivered ohio to bush no four didn't deliver for mike dewine suggests that there may be trouble ahead so that's one down five to go for the democrats and the reason it's five to go is in part because bob menendez has been re-elected as the democratic senator we can project in new jersey that's right it is it is an inherently blue state actually this is one state where democrats tend to do better on election day than the polls suggests democrats came home and we get to uh we're going to we're going to talk about that in a little while i want to bring back lou though for the time being lou well i'm still here and if you would we'll tell mr greenfield that would sound like lou dobbs on any other night but this i think it's really good thank you jeff thank you wolf we're going to go to mike dewine's campaign headquarters where our colleague bob franken is standing by in columbus this ohio this has to be something of a surprise uh for the dewine camp to to see the jared brown projection by cnn uh what's what's the sense there well the sense is that they are holding steady they are not planning immediately to come down and have their candidate come down but in terms of the result of the election although mike dewine has insisted for the last several days that the polls did not really mean anything they were closing and that this tremendous get out the vote effort that republicans have been able to mount in the state would rescue dewine and the other congressional people who are in trouble

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congressional people who are in trouble well it has not rescued mike dewine the projections are pretty consistent with what the polls had shown now the focus turns to those four or five congressional seats of the 22 in ohio that are competitive or are really leaning republican because of the current climate so ohio could as everybody expects be the bellwether state could really give a strong indication of how things are going to go but the mike dewine result is following the script that the polls had ripped lou thank you very much bob franken reporting from divine headquarters and we have of course projected sherrod brown congressman sherrod brown as the winner of the seat now held by senator mike dewine we're going to continue and we're going to turn to my colleague wolf blitzer for more welcome thank you lou we're only about a minute away or so from the top of the hour 9 p.m eastern jeff we're looking at four questions hillary hillary hillary uh her presidential campaign or the speculations will begin probably in about two and a half hours did she win by enough in new york to make her credible it's a foolish question but everyone will be asking it question two a moderate gop route lincoln chafee in rhode island many republican moderates in new york state in the house who may be threatened this may produce an endangered species problem for moderate republicans even more than now third question the immigration factor in arizona and colorado there are republicans running with very strong anti-immigration messages if they prevail if their their tough races uh may be tricky and lastly uh how big a loss if we see for instance republicans beginning to fall as the votes come in we're going to find out that this is going to be to go back to the seven o'clock question whether it's a trickle or a route and just to recap for our viewers the democrats need to gain six seats six of those republican held seats in order to become the majority they've already according to our projection taken one of those states in ohio five more needed assuming they hold on

[02:28:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8881s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=8881s)

more needed assuming they hold on to the state of maryland because that race still in doubt at this time we have projected that new jersey remains in the democrat as we take a look at these races let's go over here first of all in pennsylvania another pickup for the democrats bob casey jr bob casey jr beats rick santorum the incumbent republican that's two that's the second pickup that we project for the democrats they still will need four more assuming they don't lose any of their uh democratic seats right now a big win in pennsylvania bob casey jr the son of a earlier governor winning in pennsylvania in texas we project that kay bailey hutchinson

will be re-elected not a surprise in new york state hillary rodham clinton re-elected not much of a surprise in michigan debbie stabenow re-elected a little bit less of a surprise although all of the posts suggested she was way ahead let's continue down and take a look at our other projections in wyoming craig thomas we project re-elected not much of a surprise in minnesota an important seat the democrats needed to hold amy klobuchar is elected the next united states senator from minnesota an important win for them ken conrad projected our winner we project he will be the winner in north dakota jeff bingaman projected winner in new mexico ben nelson the democrat in nebraska projected winner in nebraska no surprise there herb cole reelected once again in the state of wisconsin no surprise there and in the state of delaware carper we project will be re-elected as well all of these no great surprises but it's important to note once again pennsylvania a pickup for the democrats bob casey jr bob casey jr beating rick santorum we project in pennsylvania that's anderson the second pickup

[02:30:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9000s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9000s)

second pickup for the democrats they still need four by no means easy to do but uh they haven't lost any of their own seats and they've picked up two bob casey jr the the son of a former governor two-term governor of of that state what did rick santorum do wrong uh what did rick santorum do wrong he's a member of the republican leadership he is probably more conservative has become more conservative he used to be in the house from the pittsburgh area represented a district where organized labor was big when he got into the senate he became his estate again as james noted a few moments ago where the war is a big issue and you also have a democratic head as well so you have a little bit of a tied there as well you also had rick santorum talking a lot about national issues about iran about iraq and and not running away from president bush as we've seen other uh republicans doing well i mean it's who he came to the dance with it would have been hard for uh santorum to move away from george bush i'll tell you the other thing that really up in pennsylvania and there was a meeting of the republican wing of the republican party and what they were mad about with rick santorum was all the money that republicans were spending down in washington so he had also that also i think coming to a democrat right there's a whole in the cover story this week's magazine and newsweek we actually have a whole cover story about the progressive evangelical social issues what jc watts was talking about it's poverty issues this world health the suburban voters made the republicans the majority you have the caller districts around pennsylvania around philadelphia you have the tammy duckworth seat in illinois the suburbs just north of chicago you have the suburbs west of saint louis which will decide the senate race there it is the suburbs that made the republicans the majority party in congress if they turn tonight and the democrats may make inroads in the rural areas there's the math they need to get a majority i want to talk to some of our analysts about the what you're seeing uh bill bennett before the body is laid into the ground here in rick santorum you bet very tough partisan slashing he was targeted by the

[02:32:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9122s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9122s)

partisan slashing he was targeted by the democrats uh wanted to take him out a huge money raise a lot of money huge money raised to take him out but let it also be said as david brooks wrote the new york times a couple weeks ago what you were just talking about in terms of compassion if you were a victim of aids or autism suffering from autism if you were in darfur if the issue was partial birth abortion lots of linking across the parties from rick santorum to uh to senators on the democrat side he was the champion really a champion of the poor the dispossessed the helpless the unborn whether it be here in the united states or abroad and they have lost the champion uh in losing rexella what rick santorum though was running hammering bob casey jr saying he was weak on national security that he couldn't keep the country safe does that message no longer resonate as much as it did in past elections for reports rick never backed off that message but i think anderson you have to look again at the type of candidate that the democrats chose uh you know senator leg casey is he's he's pro-life you know pro-family i mean he's he he took on a lot of the issues that rick took on and i agree with bill i think with you those issues i was talking to you about earlier poverty issues historical black colleges and universities aids in africa the things that i was concerned about as a person of faith rick santorum took those issues on so he was not the type of conservative that i thought didn't get it so we've lost a real champion in rick santorum but he's not finished can i just say that his political

life is not over where does he go from here you will see a movement to draft rick santorum to run you will see that run for president of the united states we'll see that yes or no that's still alive because i mean that's been talked about in the past well we'll see i mean you have to look at i mean if you want to get to 08 you have to look at the front runners john mccain and uh and rudy giuliani these are not social conservatives the conservatives are strong in this party they will want a champion he's very articulate very experienced so you haven't seen the last rick is a kind

02:34:01 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9241s>)

you haven't seen the last rick is a kind of conservative that and in terms of uh poverty issues economic issues for the underserved community small businesses minority businesses rick santorum is the type of guy that you know i could hang my hat on very strong social conservative absolutely and again i'm the disclosure i worked for bob casey in this campaign he's not just a friend he's client i worked for his father 20 years ago very close to that family's the only uh candidate i worked for in this election cycle because that's how much i believe in him i won't speak ill of the political debt and re-litigate the santorum campaign but he is the kind of guy who was the number three republican in the united states senate just lost in a landslide and that takes enormous amount of talent for bob casey jr santorum spent 25 million dollars outspent casey overwhelmingly and yet lost in a landslide casey came to voters and he said i want to change what a case he spent 17 million or something yeah but roughly half a lot of money sure but it was not the money that determined this it was the message the message was i'm going to take up on president bush almost every single ad we ran had this statistic santorum votes 98 of the time with president bush so president bush was like an anchor on rick santorum as was the war as were a whole host of middle-class economic issues santorum may have been good on poverty in africa but he wasn't seen as being very good on poverty in altoona or aliquippa where he voted against the minimum wage he voted kick kids off a head start and so casey used those issues those those the international issues about the war and the home issues about the economy to kick people off headstock oh yes when was that voted it was this summer they cut 39 billion dollars from the budget included cuts and head start he in fact when he voted to cut child care he said he in the hearing uh senator lincoln of of of arkansas said well you're gonna you're gonna kick moms off of child care they're really gonna be struggling he said i don't think having to struggle is the worst thing in the world what that means we use that in the campaign well then that's true but 39 billion dollars what that means anderson is is there was a 70 probably a 70 billion dollar increase proposed and uh they only probably got 31 billion so he voted against 39

02:36:02 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9362s>)

31 billion so he voted against 39 billion dollar increase that's a little little disingenuous we're following a number of very close senate races we're going to talk more about this race also a little bit later on uh let's check in with will anderson guys thanks very much i just want to update our viewers on what's happening in some of the key senate battlegrounds right now we'll start with tennessee take a look at this 11 percent of the precincts now reporting uh the republican bob corker with 53 harold ford jr 46 percent uh still very very early this uh these numbers presumably could change and i want to remind our viewers we don't know what part of the state these 12 percent of the precincts are reporting but it's very close as expected it's so close that when i made a joke on a radio show this morning about all we have to talk about this afternoon is rain in memphis harold ford jr called in to say you know it's not raining in memphis uh which is his strong strong place and if you take a look at the bottom of your screen you'll always see these and other results as they're coming in all night long in missouri this is a very very important battle that's underway projected to be very close only one percent of the precincts uh now reporting uh but uh jim talent with 49 percent claire mccaskill the democratic challenger 48 they said it would be close with one percent of the precincts reporting it's close take a look at virginia though 68 of the precincts have now reported in virginia george allen with 50 uh jim webb with 49 it's been going back and forth but that's about as close as it was projected what you have on this board at least these three races may well tell you whether the democrats take the senate these are three races that were supposed to be close all held by republicans all of them close a million and a half votes cast so far in virginia there are 4 hundred votes apart the democrats already have picked up two republican seats

they need four more four more if they're going to be the majority and they can't lose any of their own in connecticut only two percent of the precincts reporting joe lieberman with 49 ned lamont 40 the republican getting 10

[02:38:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9481s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9481s)

ned lamont 40 the republican getting 10 percent alan schlesinger lieberman says he'll be he's an independent but he'll caucus with the democrats two quick things alan schlesinger's low total will be the reason if it happens that joe lieberman is going to be re-elected because democrats are going to vote for lamont but republicans are probably going to choose lieberman because he's more centrist the second thing is because the anger of the more liberal bloggers the so-called net routes aimed at lieberman is so intense that even if it's a great night for democrats if lieberman wins it's going to leave a sour taste in the mouth of some of them they those bloggers with a reason in large measure that and a family fortune why ned lamont was able to upset leaving the democratic primary they want lieberman to lose almost as much as they want the democrats to take over but all the polls going into tonight suggested lieberman was significantly ahead of ned lamont he was bringing republicans in to support him democrats obviously joe lieberman a very well-known figure in in connecticut uh the in fact let's uh take a look we're about let's back up a little bit over here come over here joe lieberman we can now project come over here all right joe lieberman we can project will be re-elected the united states senator from connecticut we can now project that uh lieberman as an independent stays in the united states senate beating ned lamont and alan schlesinger literally as we were speaking about the connecticut race all of the exit polls all of the hard votes that we're getting indicates to us that joe lieberman is now projected to be re-elected to the united states senator and he says he promises he will be a democrat in uh in all but name he'll caucus with the democrats he told the people of connecticut he would uh uh even if the republicans were to dangle out some important committee chairmanship such big news that i forgot the choreography but you have to wonder whether there's a certain temptation on joe lieberman's part to go back into that democratic caucus when they reconvene in january and look at the democrats including his fellow connecticut democrat chris

[02:40:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9601s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9601s)

his fellow connecticut democrat chris dodd who campaigned against him and just for a moment uh just have that sweet feeling that i'm here because as you know will revenge is the dish best served cold and i just have a feeling there may be an order of revenge on the ticket even if if he doesn't gloat maybe it's just my personality i'd have to think he he would like a word or two with the democrats who had worked with for 18 years and came into this into the state to try to beat him i i suspect joe lieberman is pretty happy right now that he's uh again going to be re-elected to the united states senate from connecticut we projected joe lieberman holds on to that seat not as a democrat but as an independent paula and bill are looking at some exit polls in connecticut and a lot of what jeff was saying about his suspicions of how the republican vote would go is borne out by some numbers bill and i have just had a chance to analyze and these tell us exactly of the lieberman voters how they broke down by party 35 percent were republican now look at the democratic line just 26 percent so he actually got more of the republican vote than he did of the democratic vote with 38 percent of the independents voting for him what this says is republicans elected joe lieberman he says he's going to caucus with the democrats but it was republicans who voted for him 35 percent he got more republican votes than democrats although he did best among independents but you know when he goes back to the senate as jeff was saying they're going to be a lot of people who say to him joe what do you owe the democrats they threw you out they fired you they didn't campaign for you and they didn't vote for you republicans voted for you and he has said repeatedly over the last couple of days i will not be beholden to the republicans although they handed him his victory tonight and indeed lou thank you very much paula bill we're going to go now to lieberman headquarters and dan lothie and dan as we look behind you there it doesn't look like a lot of excitement

[02:42:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9720s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9720s)

excitement for the cnn projection for senator lieberman well there have been some bursts of excitement as they've been watching the projections on the screen just had a chance a while ago to talk to the communications director he told me that they're very encouraged by this projection but they're not yet ready to say victory so they're still waiting for all their numbers to come in before they're ready to say okay this is a victory for us but you know what's interesting is in the last few minutes they were actually quite concerned saying that this race was probably much closer than a lot of people thought because they thought there might be some issues about the placement his name placement on the ballot obviously as the protection shows that may not have been an issue at all wait to see what they have to say dan lothian thank you very much we appreciate it dan lothian reporting from joe lieberman's headquarters and cnn has just project projected joe lieberman to return to the u.s senate this time as an independent america votes 2006 continues in just a moment a lot more to come 13 seats undecided for control of the u.s senate welcome back we're watching all these races and what you're seeing right now here on our wall these are winners that we've projected for various senate seats house seats gubernatorial seats if you take a close look you'll see the projected winners at this hour it's almost 9 20 p.m on the east coast take a look [Music]

[02:44:08 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9848s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9848s)

and if you didn't know the red are clearly republican wins the blue are democratic winds you saw the green in the state of vermont for example as independent and joe lieberman in connecticut and independent as well so those are the winners that we've projected so far but right now we have a major projection a major projection to make in the state of maryland congressman ben cardin the democrat we project will be elected the next united states senator from the state of maryland succeeding paul sarbanes the longtime incumbent democrat michael steele maryland's lieutenant governor who ran a very very strong campaign not strong enough michael steele goes down according to our projection ben cardin will be the next united states senator from the state of maryland jeff greenfield this is one the democrats desperately needed to hold it was one so many republicans could almost taste they were feeling that michael steele an african-american republican would be a strong candidate he certainly was but not strong enough they thought hey ben cardin beat an african-american in a close primary crazy infumay michael steele had gotten the endorsements of some prince george democrats who said that the maryland democrats had taken them for granted i talked to a couple of democrats this weekend who were more nervous about maryland than almost well certainly than any other democratic seat what this means is that the two democratic seats the republicans wanted to take away new jersey and maryland are both in democratic hands hold on one second nancy pelosi the democratic leader in the house of representatives speaking right now if the democrats are the majority she would be the speaker let's listen in briefly to see what she's saying our strategy which is bearing fruit tonight the polls are

[02:46:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9960s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=9960s)

bearing fruit tonight the polls are still open at least half the country so while we have you have done your work and you've come here i want to remind the people in the midwest and rocky mountain west and in calif the west coast the pacific west to get out there and vote important get out there and vote [Applause] it's very important we can we don't know what the results are of this election what we do know is we want as many new democrats in congress as possible and to my own state of california i am sick i appeal to the democrats their independence and fair-minded republicans to get out and vote for phil angelidis for governor of california and for our democratic candidates from washington state darcy burnham and charlie brown and and jerry mcinerney and patsy madrid oh there's so many candidates in the west and in the pacific west so we have to go back to work to man the phones to the win midwest rocky mountain west and west coast but as the evening progresses our 3 30-somethings our voice for their voices for their generation will be giving you the good news about the future in the meantime i thank all of you for taking us to where we are tonight let's let's give a big cheer to the american people who across the country all right nancy pelosi the would-be speaker of the house if the democrats capture 15 seats don't lose any of their own and we're ready to make another major projection right now in the state of kentucky john yarmuth the democratic challenger will be elected we project in the third

[02:48:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10080s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10080s)

will be elected we project in the third district in kentucky beating the incumbent republican and northup take a look at this with a hundred percent of the vote right now in uh of 51 for yarmouth 48 for northup we project though that the uh we we he will win obviously with 100 of the precinct in right now this is the second the second major pickup for the democrats right now they still need 13 more if they're going to be in the majority in the house of representatives but lou dobbs this is one the democrats wanted badly and uh they clearly got this one in kentucky absolutely and uh and northrop a absolute stalwart for the republican party another stalwart of the republican leadership of course is ken melman he is the chairman of the republican national committee coming to us tonight from republican headquarters uh first thanks for being here uh this uh we're looking at some very tight races across the country uh give us your best sense of direction as to where we're headed this evening well i think lou that you've hit the nail on the head there are a number of very close races it's interesting that indy that uh kentucky number you just mentioned another race in kentucky that everyone expected to be much closer than it ended up being was the jeff davis race against ken lucas who used to represent the seat we always said that we thought indiana and kentucky would be two of our tougher states i'm sorry that anne appears to be where she is we'll see what the numbers finally are indiana appears to be very close around the country there's a lot of very interesting data the virginia numbers are tight as they can be and a significant amount of northern virginia appears to have voted there's some early evidence that in maryland michael steele could be making some incredibly history doing very well with african-american voters missouri appears as we thought it would incredibly close what it says to me all over the country is if you haven't voted yet we're going to have about 30 races that are going to be decided by potentially the turnout tonight and so it's critical that everybody participate and vote and get out there of course we have we have just projected here that ben cardin uh will prevail over michael steele the

[02:50:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10201s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10201s)

uh will prevail over michael steele the inroads that you talked about with the african american voters this this race in virginia uh looks like it's going to be tight all the way through you've suggested that you have information about where that vote is the vote is coming from we just heard from senator charles schumer that he was being advised a democratic party headquarters that the north had already was about to move into this vote you've heard just the opposite well i've heard that a significant part of the north of northern virginia fairfax county of arlington county had already been in a significant amount of loudoun county which is kind of an ex urban county was still out we'll all see where that data comes from we know one thing it's an incredibly close race in virginia as a lot of us expected it would be there are 11 undecided seats right now in the u.s senate republicans holding an edge 44 to 43 right now are you confident about the remainder of the races give us a sense as to whether or not you really believe right now you're going to be able to hold control of the senate i do i think we will hold control of the senate obviously a lot of these races are going to be very close could potentially go into overtime but obviously we think the missouri race remains incredibly close we've yet to see some numbers back from montana virginia appears incredibly close i understand what you say about maryland i haven't seen data to indicate that and we'll see what the exit polls and then ultimately more importantly the actual numbers actually show there but i think we're going to see it's going to be a fairly late night in both the senate and the house because a lot of these races are really different the fact that the north of brace and then the davis race appeared to go in different directions really indicates how race specific a lot of this information is ken melman chairman of the republican national committee thanks for being here wolf over to you thank you very much we're now ready to make another major projection in the state of rhode island take a look at this the democrat the democratic challenger sheldon whitehouse we project will be elected the united states senator from rhode island beating the moderate republican incumbent lincoln chafee

[02:52:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10320s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10320s)

incumbent lincoln chafee we have all very little of the actual vote coming in but based on the exit polls and other information we're getting this will be the third the third pickup for the democrats in the u.s senate they need six if they're going to be the majority and they can't lose any of their own seats we've projected that they will retain the democratic seats in both new jersey and maryland the two more vulnerable democratic seats so they need three more if they're going to be the majority but we we are ready to uh project that sheldon whitehouse will defeat lincoln chafee in the state of rhode island uh let's bring in jeff greenfield three pickups already for the democrats they're halfway home to they need six and i think and i think this one they need six net to get control of the senate they've kept new jersey and maryland they have picked up pennsylvania ohio and now rhode island and what this means is that the hope of the republicans that lincoln chafee very popular his father was a senator before him what's happened here is that the party label i believe will be shown to have been decisive chafee as i've mentioned didn't even vote for george w bush for reelection he didn't support the war he didn't support the tax cuts he did a very powerful ad saying you want an independent voice to talk back to the president i'm him but rhode island which gave john kerry one of the biggest if not the biggest margins in 0-4 said you know what your party loyalty is a bridge too far for us and sheldon whitehouse goes into the senate so let's talk about where the democrats need to win if they're going to reach that magic number of six they're at three right now they need to pick up three more republican-held seats to get to 51 in the united states senate just to make it clear the blues are democrats the reds are republicans these are the 33 seats that were at play tonight correct and i have colored vermont and connecticut blue because both bernie sanders and joe lieberman say they will vote democratic which puts my number at 45 where we what we have left to see is virginia missouri montana tennessee four

[02:54:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10440s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10440s)

missouri montana tennessee four republican held seats we already see how close virginia is we already see how close tennessee is missouri is also close and the polls in montana haven't closed but this is the ball game three out of six are in democratic hands new jersey and maryland have stayed in democratic hands three of these four seats these are the contested ones the democrats still need three of these four to make up the six they need some prominent democrats as you know including the former president of the united states bill clinton we're holding out hope that arizona john kyle the incumbent republican that that seat could be vulnerable as well speaking of president clinton james carville mentioned i think that last night at 9 30 at night he was campaigning in rhode island for sheldon whitehouse that's how nervous democrats were about that and it had you have to say that the states they've been most nervous about rhode island maryland new jersey have all come in for democrats and we're waiting to see these four montana missouri tennessee virginia is going to decide whether republicans or democrats control the senate and that race in virginia specifically between george allen and jim webb that's been going back and forth as the actual votes are being counted the precincts are coming in we're trying to update our viewers on where it stands precisely right now we have not been able to make a projection in the commonwealth of virginia i have to admit to you that i really and like watching races where all of the computers and all of the projections and all the modeling are thrown out the window when people sit there and actually count votes the good old-fashioned way of actually counting the ballots that's encouraging and this race in virginia looks like it's going to be the case if you believe what chuck schumer said earlier the senator from new york who's in charge of getting democrats elected in the senate he was saying that a lot of the votes from northern virginia had not yet been counted presumably that would be good for webb because that's more of a democratic stronghold than in the southern part of the state if we didn't have if we hadn't banned smoking in this room i would have had an old-fashioned politician with a cigar in

[02:56:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10560s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10560s)

old-fashioned politician with a cigar in his mouth a pencil and some crumpled paper chucking the numbers for us but i want to go over to uh uh the board over here and take a look because there's another pickup we're ready to make ready to project in the house of representatives take a look at this indiana indiana here it is right over here indiana 2 the second district in indiana joe donnelly the democratic challenger to chris ciccola we project he will now be the next united states congressman from indiana this is one of those

vulnerable republican seats in indiana chris chicola he was one that was considered vulnerable and now joe donnelly his democratic challenger we project will be the next united states congressman from indiana in that district i believe that's the third democratic pickup in the house of representatives they need 15 in order to be the majority in the house so it's uh it's a it's a struggle for the democrats in the house but slowly slowly they might be moving in that direction anderson and at the beginning this evening we talked about indiana we talked about kentucky as being two very important states to watch in these congressional elections to see how the democrats would be doing let's talk to amy walter with the cook political report what do you make about this new democratic pickup well as wolff pointed out now democrats have picked up a grand total of three seats they need 15. the kentucky three race was the most surprising and i think what this may foreshadow for republicans are those republicans who sit in democratic leaning seats like anne northrup does who were in very tight races they broke at the end to the democrat so i'm looking at other places like clay shaw in florida those results are starting to come in looking at some other congressional districts in the northeast especially where they're districts that were won by a democrat for president but republicans hold those seats the kentucky free race you're talking about john yarmuth winning over representative and northrup she distancing herself

[02:58:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10680s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10680s)

distancing herself from president bush as much as possible calling finally in this last week for secretary roman phil to resign you know what she has been one of the strongest campaigners in the entire country and she has been able to beat very strong democrats even in not particularly great years what she was but what she was unable to do was avoid just getting pulled down by this political environment yarmouth not necessarily her strongest opponent ever but he's running in the best environment i've ever seen some of your sources are calling you on your phone that's probably true i'm going to let you go get that we're going to talk a little bit more with that uh bill bennett what do you make of some of these latest developments well the north as one that we were hoping we'd win the other two we that amy was talking about we expected to lose so this suggests that they are as wolf said making some slow progress in those other races i'm heartbroken if it's true about michael steele i saw your your reaction you've been punched in the guy you know he uh we want to recount we want to recap well here it is he was born in dc you know his mom was a domestic in d.c you know people can move to virginia they moved to maryland i'm going to recommend he moved to virginia and run the next time because he's a he's a heck of a great heck of a great guy lieberman i'll go with my thesis again this was one that the hard left was targeting they really wanted joe out they put a lot of resources in it there's a lot of vloggers out there soros crowd the daily calls cars whatever he is and and uh they didn't get it and actually lieberman got a fair number yes of republican votes get a fair number of democrat votes and you know what he's for don't you he's for the war in iraq jason nick i you know ann northrup i've campaigned with dan and her district several times over the last uh six eight years tough campaigner great constituent services i i'm disappointed that she lost because she's a friend but it's it's a tough as amy said it's a tough political climate and that was considered a democrat district so i kind of felt like at the end of the night we might lose in maryland did you think that lieutenant governor michael steele would pull it out i i did and i'm going to be curious to

[03:00:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10801s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=10801s)

i did and i'm going to be curious to break down those numbers and see what he did in the different demographics again a disappointment because michael's a personal friend and i thought he he gave republicans a chance to do a lot of the things that that i think we hadn't done over the last 10 12 years reaching out growing the base of the party he did that um you know but again you know there in washington right next to the district trying to bring along all the goop that he had to deal with uh in the end obviously was overwhelming a lot of government government workers working and living in maryland yes and a lot of them are a lot of somebodies and african-american precincts we're getting this kind this uh sample ballot which you see says democratic sample ballot on here from the michael steele campaign and it lists as a democratic sample ballot bob ehrlich the republican governor at least michael steele the republican candidate for senate that's kind of deceptive advertising mr steele ran a an energetic campaign he's a really

gifted campaigner he had i think some of the most creative ads and performances in his ads were extraordinary but some of his advertising was a little false if he had bumper stickers that said steel democrat so if the only way you can even be competitive is to pretend you're not even a republican that doesn't bode very well for the republican party he did try to paint cardin as an insider as a washington insider and sort of hoping that there would be an anti-incumbent drive as much as an anti-bush driver that's right and that's what we're learning tonight is that this is an annie bush nanny republican drive again i hearken back to my nightmare election night of 1994 not a single republican incumbent lost their seat that year we're not seeing a whole lot of democratic comments go down ben cardin is a washington insider he's been in congress for over a decade he's been a leader in the congress and that did not hurt him in this election because people were looking for a way to take out their wrath on president bush and this god awful war in iraq and iraq again coming up in this race it was driving these races you know around the country but it was hardly a surprise that a democrat won in maryland to be honest about that

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maryland to be honest about that republicans i think got a little over excited uh we're still in for you know a long night here in the senate we had a lot of close races to be looking at virginia very very tight and we've got tennessee and missouri left to look at it and montana's gonna see it's needed republicans and democrats both we all sit around and kind of take out the pencil and paper and look at what we might be able to pick up and and maryland although it is a democrat it is a it is a blue state that was one that we were hopeful we knew the odds were going to be long and they were going to be difficult but we thought we had the right candidate with the right message and we thought if anybody could do it it would be michael steele in a different year he might have won we're going to take a quick break our election coverage continues stay tuned [Music] and welcome back we have been talking a lot tonight about what a critical issue the war in iraq has been in this election and bill schneider and i are just finding out how critical it was in handing incumbent lincoln chafee his defeat tonight now to put this into perspective for all of you here is a man who voted against the president 2004 as a republican voted against the war voted against his tax cuts and yet was handed this job approval rating in his state when we asked respondents coming out of the voting booths today how does he handle his job 62 percent said they approved 36 said they disapprove now of those voters who strongly disapprove of the war in iraq just 27 percent voted for the republican

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just 27 percent voted for the republican some 72 percent for sheldon whitehouse the newly elected senator from rhode island an amazing result look at that 62 percent approve of lincoln chafee they like him they really like him but they didn't vote for him when i interviewed sheldon whitehouse who has won that senate seat he said i'm not going to attack lincoln chafee personally he voted okay against the war and i agree with him on a lot of issues but he's in the wrong party and when he votes for a majority leader in the senate he empowers the wrong people 52 percent of rhode island voters told us they not just disapprove of the war in iraq they strongly disapprove of the war in iraq and they voted three to one for white house even though lincoln chafee voted against the war in iraq this has got to be a very frustrating night for lincoln chavez so this is all about a mandate for change a mandate for change and a very strong message on iraq in rhode island lincoln chafee was liked but he was in the wrong party for rhode island voters so don't take it personally tonight lincoln they really really like you but long position on wrong party on the war all right let's go back to wolf now thank you paula for that and cnn is now projecting this hour in rhode island cnn projects the democratic challenger sheldon whitehouse has defeated the republican incumbent senator lincoln cheney as we've been reporting in pennsylvania cnn projecting that the democratic challenger bob casey jr has defeated the republican incumbent senator rick santorum cnn also projecting that democratic senator joe lieberman now running as an independent in connecticut no longer a democrat has defeated his opponents to be re-elected the united states senator from connecticut joe lieberman will serve now as an independent although he has promised everyone in connecticut he will caucus with the democrats will effectively be a democrat even though he will serve as an independent significant race is underway still lots of uncertainty

[03:06:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=11160s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=11160s)

of uncertainty we're just beginning our coverage anderson and we've got a lot more to work on we certainly do three more seats that's of course what they need in the senate to pick up for the democrats to take over control of the senate the big races right now missouri tennessee virginia at this point too close add montana to the mix that's the republican firewall especially virginia tennessee and missouri they call it the firewall because they just they want to hold their majority it'll be they're obviously going to have a small majority if they hold it and i think the defeat of lincoln chafee is could well be a big dynamic tomorrow assume the republicans do hold that majority by one or two seats what you have lost and this was an issue late in the campaign is another moderate republican someone who is on the environmental committee he's pro-choice he's gay rights and he's pro-environment like the sierra club would like him to be in the national research defense council would like him to be if the republicans keep their majority and a senator like lincoln chafee is gone a more conservative republican will replace him on those committees and it will change the balance of power within the republican caucus so if the republicans do hold on it could be quite significant they'll still be the majority party but their their own balance will be out of kill for a little bit interesting well you know it's going to i mean look at these races this is going to be a long night i think because you you have seen these all of these go back and forth one of the things about the firewall was that early on republicans looked at montana uh which is uh conrad burns and john tester conrad burns being the republican uh sitting senator for 18 years and they looked at that and thought the polls were so bad that they thought okay the firewall is you know tennessee virginia and missouri and within the past week burns has come within the margin of error he's been able to come back i mean because early on when he was he was being painted with you know association with jack abramoff uh 150 000 he had to give back that he'd been given by abramoff and and his supporters what changed i'll tell you what democrats say when they watch the tester race and they will tell you that tester just wasn't mean enough uh just wasn't mean enough uh that he needed to really go after

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needed to really go after conrad burns now he had commercials and all of that but they had to bring in the governor of montana to say mean stuff because tester had a hard time doing it on the campaign trail they feel he just wasn't strong enough now look he may still win this race and we'll prove out that you don't have to be mean but conrad burns has been there for a long time i mean montana doesn't have that big a population he knows a lot of those people there and you can pull in some chits if you've been there a long time there were also some verbal miscues some gaffes made during this race by conrad burns in particular he made it one reference i think to a guatemalan gentleman who did some work around his house they was viewed as a slur he's not the best communicator in the world but i think we may see this and we're beginning to see it in some of these races new jersey is a democratic state maryland's a democratic state well montana's a republican state it is hard to knock off an incumbent in a state that is so deeply rooted in a partisan tradition and so you saw that happen to michael steele i don't think we've seen the end of him i think he will be back i remember a race a long time ago a guy named mitt romney ran as a republican against teddy kennedy everyone wanted him to go slash and burn negative he refused he lost to ted kennedy he happens to be the governor of massachusetts now the outgoing governor one of those considered a front-runner for president so i think michael steele will be back in a state like montana it's a republican state it is hard even in a year like this out in the mountain west to be a republican the other race that has a lot of people been focusing on the television commercials of is of course tennessee harold for harold ford jr against bob corker at this point it seems very close it does seem very close and and while that ad got a lot of attention down there it's like the call me herald ad and references to his going to a playboy mansion to watch a football game etc a lot of people feel that the day that harold ford went to a parking lot where corker was having a news conference and challenged him on a number of things that it looked sophomoric because harold ford has won as run a heck of a race i mean it's been a really really good race now

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it's been a really really good race now the ad has been seen as playing the race card uh we'll have to sort of look at those exit polls unfortunately when it comes to race people sort of light upholstery so it's a little hard to tell why they voted against or for someone it's a republican state again though tennessee is a republican state since al gore left the senate you've had that seat in republican hands so when you get down to the margins in the very close races unless we see a giant wave and we're seeing democratic momentum but not a wave just yet right your gut tells you that in the end that's where those states come home but we'll be watching alford junior of course uh representing west uh from memphis in the western part of the state eastern part of the state uh far more conservative our coverage continues when we come back we're going to take you to a blogging event at a place called trist a bar in in washington dc a number of bloggers liberal and conservative have joined together we'll take you there live and our coverage continue stay tuned [Music] cnn is hosting some of the most important bloggers in the blogosphere tonight at trist in washington dc we go to our internet reporter jackie schechner to to bring us up to date on on what is going on jackie hi lou i'm sitting here right now with christy harden smith who blogs at firedoglake.com it's one of the top liberal blogs that backed ned lamont what are your thoughts right now after hearing that lieberman is eeked out over le mans well obviously it's disappointing but at the same time you know i think all the democratic candidates that won this evening owe ned lamont a thank you he changed the conversation with his win in the primary to the failures and the lack of accountability in iraq he changed the conversation to the fact that there needed to be less rubber stamping in the u.s congress and more oversight and more checks and balances and i think that that's something that americans voted on this evening we want to go over to abby tatten who is with mike krumpasky from redstate.com to

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with mike krumpasky from redstate.com to get a little bit of conservative reaction to the ned lamont joe lieberman race abby yes jackie it's not just the liberal the net routes that are reacting to this mike paske here at the conservative group blog red state where last week already we saw a pre-mortem about this race i kind of i told you so post what's your reaction to the news of joe lieberman well i mean it's delightful to see the voters of connecticut displaying remarkable common sense but i think that the more disappointing thing i think for the left is that despite all the resources and energy they poured into this race sort of prove their immaturity that they pinned all their hopes on picking off an 18-year incumbent party and failed and so what that says for their efficacy moving forward i think it's a tough road ahead the liberal blogs also supporting other candidates around the country let ned lamont was at the top of the slate but lots of other lots of other candidates out there um that being supported you don't see any luck for them there either well no i mean look anybody can support candidates it's clear that of all the candidates in the country that they most put their energy in and actually did make a difference in the primary ned lamont was clearly top of the list they certainly put all their chips in lamont's camp and had more of an impact there and were largely credited with his win in the primary which of course now has proven woefully unsuccessful woefully and successful millions and millions of dollars written out of lamont's pocket strong feelings here from the left and the right we hear the news of these results coming in lou we're watching all of them with some of the country's top blockers here at trist in washington dc and i'll send it back to you thank you very much abby uh and we'll be uh of course also watching what they have to say about the night's developments one of those developments we can tell you about right now the state of arizona with a number of very important state initiatives has we can now project past the the initiative requiring english to be the official language of the state of arizona uh all of that we still have a very

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uh all of that we still have a very important senate race to to figure out but we will do so shortly wolfe over to you all right lou thanks very much i want to update our viewers on what exactly is going on in the united states senate right now jeff greenfield's got this what we call our smart board the democrats have now taken according to our projection three republican-held seats in the senate they still need three more where are the opportunities for them now with vermont and connecticut independents caucusing with the democrats we are now down to four republican held seats of which the democrats need three let's go over them in the state of

virginia we've been looking at this all night a very close race between senator allen and former navy secretary james webb in tennessee former chattanooga mayor bob corker the republican narrowly leads congressman harold ford jr in missouri this race is extremely close senator jim talent i believe is just a bit ahead with not that much of the vote in of claire mccaskill the state auditor and the polls are still open that's missouri again i'm sorry the polls are still open in montana where senator conrad burns is being challenged by the state senate president john tester it's very simple wolf there are four republican held senate seats out there we're assuming that the other seats that aren't called or projected go as everyone assumes democrats have three in the bag they need three of those four for the six to get control of the senate that's what we'll be watching for the rest of the night and in three minutes they're going to be closing the voting in montana so maybe we'll get a little bit better indication of what's going on let's take a look at the house of representatives right now all 435 seats in the house are up for election this time around as is the case every two years right of the seats that have been decided 107 to the democrats 88 to the republicans 218 is the majority a 15-seat gain net for the democrats is what they need and as of now we have we as of now to show you by

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we have we as of now to show you by contrast this is the old house 232 to 202 to one independent and if we flip it this is where we are so uh so we have you know a couple hundred seats left but one thing we should mention so far not a single democratic incumbent house member has been defeated and the republicans really are hoping for no more than four or five this this is the story of the night and we're counting down to the closing 10 p.m on the east coast there will be a few states that will be closing their polls at that time and we're going to take a closer look at several of them it's only about two minutes from now in the house of representatives the democrats have made a modest amount of in-road so far it's almost 10 p.m on the east coast are you surprised that we haven't been able to project a greater number of democratic takeovers in the house so far well there are no exit polls in the house races we haven't heard about what's happened in ohio we haven't heard from pennsylvania we haven't heard from new york state with a ton of endangered republicans and i think in connecticut where there are three or four so i think that may be a matter of vote counting uh polls as you say are closing in about a minute and a half we have some questions that we may or may not get to here they are is the west turning blue or purple a lot of endangered republicans in what were once safe seats did the road machine sizzle or fizzle the vaulted 72-hour turnout we should be getting this picture from across the country the shape of the senate well we just talked about that and how blew a house if we think the democrats are going to take this house we haven't projected that yet will it be with a tiny margin with a moderates in conservative solar power or will it bigger market margin we hope that these questions will be able to be answered in the hour if not hours ahead did the rove machine sizzle or fizzle who wrote that question well you know what can i tell you i'll cop to that all right let me just update uh let me just update our viewers on what is going on right now as we wait about 45 seconds or so from now the closing of some polls out in the west including in

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polls out in the west including in montana right now the democrats have picked up three seats in the senate three seats they need six in order to be the majority if they pick up five there's a 50-50 split in the senate the vice president of the united states dick cheney is the president of the senate he breaks the tie so nominally the republicans would be the majority in the united states senate the democrats have picked up as we know at least three republican health seats in the house they need 15. we're watching all of this very very carefully uh in short the night is still young lots of united states senator from utah will be re-elected orrin hatch has never had much of a problem getting himself re-elected in utah does that right now we cannot project the key senate race that's closing at this point in montana conrad burns john tester we're watching that race very very closely but there's rick santorum the republican senator from pennsylvania with his family we've projected he's been defeated let's listen in briefly pennsylvania bob casey and wished him my uh all of ours very best to him and his uh in his new role uh pledge to him any support that we can give to make sure that the people of pennsylvania continue to be served in a seamless way over the next couple of months i i congratulate him and i mean that wholeheartedly i congratulate him he ran an excellent campaign i know

he'll be he is a fine man and he'll do a fine job for pennsylvania please give him a round of applause please come on give it up give him a round of applause [Applause] the first thing i'd like to say you know i was thinking about what the first thing i would say when i came out here and it came down to the same thing either way uh karen and i and the kids just want to thank god for um

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thank god for um blessing all right so rick santorum the republican senator from pennsylvania conceding defeat graciously congratulating the new senator he will be the new senator from pennsylvania bob casey jr you could see the tears welling up among his young kids who were there with him uh but rick santorum will not be re-elected to the united states senate anderson uh wolf bill bennett earlier we're saying rick santorum's political future is still very much alive uh possibly even a run for the president i think you'll see people talk about that as bill noted very popular among social conservatives as a conviction conservative someone who stands his ground and even if he knows he's unpopular but believes it's the right thing to do he says it jc is absolutely right too and the democrats do give rick santorum a ton of credit for working on aids poverty and other issues they worked very hard against him in this campaign because they want the majority but they do give him credit on those issues another interesting choice for him could be it looks like ed rendell will be re-elected governor of pennsylvania tonight i'm not sure if we've projected that race or not but he was way ahead for most of the race rick santorum ed rendell i talked to him the other day is this his last campaign maybe rex and trump could work for four years rehabilitate his image and run for governor in a few years as well too a young man and a very popular conservative how does this change the balance of power among republicans in the senate well first of all leaves an opening in the leadership i mean what's going to be really interesting is to see when republicans come back whether they're in the minority of the majority they're going to have leadership openings one of them is rick santorum he's the third most powerful republican on the senate side and you have um bill frist retiring so you have these huge openings for leadership so when they look at the makeup of who's coming back in the senate they're going to have to make their choices on who's going to actually lead them and that always sends a powerful signal as to whether the republican party has learned anything if they're defeated or whether they're staying the course uh policy wise or even philosophy wise so it's going to be very interesting with this this vacancy and the frist vacancy to see how they

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see how they begin to shape who they are for 2008. you agree with that marcus i think that's exactly the question i think while we've heard some laudatory things tonight about the bipartisanship on occasion uh of the senator from pennsylvania who only has another two months in office now we have to remember this was an incredibly politicizing divisive partisan both on the floor of the united states senate but also back in pennsylvania and that's one reason he's been turned out tonight so while he reached across the aisle on occasion his rhetoric is amongst the most heated of the u.s senate the question now is what will this new republican if the republicans keep descending and democrats win the house the many prognosticators were prognosticating the question is going to be what is that republican senate like it's the upper house the u.s government are they going to work with the democratic house are they going to make sure the democrats get nothing done if a partisan like a fire brand person like rick santorum has not returned to the senate maybe that the american people are sending a message to the republican senators and one of the challenges in that senate you have a number of senators running for president one of them john mccain considered the front runner right now his presidential campaign began a few hours ago if not a few months ago and so how the internal senate dynamic works is very important whether the republicans are in the majority or not the man in line right now to be leader and there needs to be an election versus mitch mcconnell someone with whom john mccain has been like this over the years on campaign finance and other issues so the internal senate dynamic as candy noted win or lose would be quite fascinating let's talk about that with some of our analysts back here a little bit um jc watts bill bennett in particular how do republicans in the senate change with rick santorum gone bill frist retiring you know i have not thought about that other than mitch mcconnell being the majority leader if we hang on which i i think we will mitch is is there a lesson in this

for republicans that a rick santorum goes down you know i i think i think it says anderson i tell you a story i heard about a football team losing a game 177 to nothing and the coach is trying to figure out what do i say to my players and he said you know what i know what i'll do we'll go back to

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i know what i'll do we'll go back to basics he took a football and held it up and he said guys we're going back to basics this is a football and i think that's where we are you know we've we've gotten away from who we are as republicans over the last uh you know three or four years and now we've seen democrat candidates come along like the guy in indiana i think bob casey i think that's who bob casey is but i think we're seeing those type of candidates that's coming along and kind of you know looking like republicans and in this environment you know the edge have gone to them so i think republicans need to get back to basics and uh and try to broaden the base a little bit and and look at some of those issues that i think the evangelical community is concerned about and we talked about those a little earlier there have been some conservatives who said look this may not be a bad thing for the republican party uh kind of a shot in the arm a wake-up call yeah i think there'll be a bigger shift if there is one in the republican party in the house leadership i think you could see a real shake up here so they'll be generational i think you'll see guys like pence who i see is winning big people like john shattag and others people who have not had their way on limitations on spending really really urged their will here upon upon the majority i think you'll see them rise up and maybe replace a lot of the leadership i agree i think mitch mcconnell probably becomes the majority leader if uh if we hold the senate and i don't think so i mean unless you see john kyle thrown out you you're uh and a host of other conservatives across the land uh i don't i don't think there's any kind of sea change for the party from the democratic perspective should there be a message to the republicans well yeah there ought to be i mean let's hope they don't learn it but i think that when you see when you see somebody who's your number three leader in the senate go down in a landslide right against a guy that i think he kind of denigrated in the campaign that tells you something i think it's what marcus was talking about the sort of overheated rhetoric fine for a guy like me not very good for a guy who's the number three person in the united states senate the

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person in the united states senate the really bitter divisive partisanship that the the really remarkable attack that senator santorum made on on gay americans when he compared them to people commit bestiality i mean that sort of thing is so over the top and i think republicans will want to correct back from that and they'll have ample opportunity to do it in a closely divided senate no matter who's in the majority i mean that place has to work on bipartisanship well again this was a comment i think taken out of context we'll need to argue that look at rick santorum in the totality of his actions and again in the state of pennsylvania this is not this is not a red state you've got conservative stars in this party in the senate guys like norm coleman tom coburn from oklahoma and others john kyle remains one and um i i don't think this is any kind of ideological sea change you're right rick santorum's a tough he's a slashing debater and he made people really angry and he was targeted and you know pennsylvania is no is no give me state for republicans what's the lesson for republicans in this well i think santorum probably lost touch with the state he was busy raising money on k street you know he was the chairman of the k street project which was of course conveniently being disregarded here he was also a huge supporter of the iraq war i think the combination of k street in iraq probably did him not a lot of good in a state like pennsylvania uh it's a blue state but republicans have traditionally done sort of pretty pretty well there and uh you know i think that jc is right to some extent the republicans and the democrats now have a chance i think people want their political parties to reconnect with them in in so and i think the message here is it is too much hyper partisanship is probably not what people are looking for the bush rose strategy has always been a base strategy where the base is always the most partisan folks the clinton democratic strategy was always find the center in the middle uh it looks like the beginning signs tonight are that the sort of central strategy is is going to be the smarter one tonight i got to go to wolf though i was watching some race as well thanks anderson thanks guys very much we want to take a closer look right now in virginia this is a key battleground state the republicans and

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battleground state the republicans and the democrats fiercely fighting for the state here's what the actual votes show right now with 88 percent of the precincts reporting 50 percent for allen 49 for jim webb the democratic challenger take a look at the actual number that's about uh what uh 25 000 uh out of almost 2 million votes cast which is not a whole lot still 12 percent left to be counted jeff greenfield so it's still very very close could go either way and i want to show our viewers these two maps that we've put together because they're significant this is what has been reported so far the red is republican the blue is democrat then they're different shades depending on what's coming on the white is uh clearly uh precincts that have not yet reported but compare that jeff to the the current senate contest versus the presidential race in 2004. well if you look over at the presidential map george w bush handily defeated john kerry uh people describe the north as democratic and the south is republican it's more complicated than that but kerry except for carrying the area right around the northern suburbs of washington and the strip down the southeast a couple of areas west and south of roanoke basically bush carried almost every county if you look at 2006 james james is doing much stronger in the northern suburbs he is carrying arlington by by i think it's 30 or even 40 points and he has extended his reach into counties that george bush carried two years earlier there's been talk that virginia in the north particularly has had an infusion of more democratic voters i think you can see that in the map in and around fairfax where arlington and where a lot of the folks who work in washington live you can also see that he has won a couple of counties by bigger margins in the center of the state that's why that blue is deeper than kerry did in losing to in to bush two years ago that's why this race is so close our colleague lou dobbs has pointed out that gay marriage is on the ballot in virginia and it may be that if george allen ekes out a victory uh when all these votes are counted you're right he's 25 000 votes ahead maybe that will be the

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000 votes ahead maybe that will be the determining factor i hope our exit polls but if you take a look at that one county outside of richmond which is still white that that suggests that that the precincts there have not yet reported is that right i believe that's right because if you look at that same county in the presidential contest in 2004 that was about as blue as blue can be right there so presumably that county near richmond is a democratic county which would perhaps be good news for webb if they still have to count that county right there as we said earlier we're going to have to wait and watch these votes come out but clearly james webb vietnam combat veteran uh a man who was no cultural liberal is running a lot stronger race in virginia than john kerry did two years ago 50 49 with 89 percent of the vote already counted paula this is getting very very tight in virginia as we suspected it would it is getting very very tight and getting very very interesting it appears as though we have a battle of the sexes going on tonight in virginia i want you to take a look at these numbers when we asked the men uh who they voted for 55 percent said alan 44 went all right we kind of expected that football one word allen's father was a famous football coach for the washington redskins men despite the web standing as a military hero secretary of the navy men are voting for allen now let's see how women voted 46 for senator allen to webb's 53 percent so it would appear as though every time that mr allen characterized mr webb as a misogynist a woman a man who didn't respect women that didn't stick with these women who voted it did not stick and we actually asked people in the exit poll does jim webb respect women 60 percent said yes he tried to make an issue also of george allen's statements about minorities the famous macaca moment the voters of virginia's 56 percent said

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the voters of virginia's 56 percent said george allen does respect minorities so neither one of those charges really stuck but i'll tell you if you had to say what to sum up these two charts virginia men voting for allen that's football women voting for webb that is iraq and uh that appears as though that vote is breaking in webb's favor the folks who were opposed to the war seem to be voting for mr wentwolf all right paul thanks very much annette lamont the democratic candidate for the united states senate is conceding in connecticut let's listen in briefly to hear what he has to say [Applause] you can't do anything in life without your family i'm

here with my family [Music] [Applause] do your best to make a difference and just do your best and that's what we did for the last 10 months and that's what we do again starting tomorrow all right ned lamont who beat joe lieberman in the democratic primary joe lieberman now beating ned lamont in connecticut lieberman as an independent re-elected to the united states senate we're still watching several key battleground states including in virginia in missouri in montana in tennessee still uncertainty we're going to continue our special coverage from cnn election headquarters here in new york we'll be right back [Music] there's a huge fight going on in the united states senate right now the democrats have picked up three republican seats so

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have picked up three republican seats so far if they want to be the majority they though have to pick up six and there's still battles going on in several of those states at least four where democrats theoretically have some opportunity they've managed to hold on based on our projections to maryland and new jersey to states where the republicans thought they perhaps could make some inroads in the house of representatives it's turning out to be a real slugfest up here we've got jeff greenfield some of the major races about 36 of the races that were projected to be real battlefield uh battlegrounds and it's certainly turning out to be the case in several of them let's talk about a few of them while we have these numbers coming in specifically here okay well let's go over my shoulder in kentucky four where democrats are hoping that former congressman ken lucas could beat jeff davis 82 percent of the vote in davis has a slight lead in indiana nine this third straight match between uh baron hill and saudral the en the incumbent is trailing baron hill by by just two percentage points way to wait with 83 of the vote in right and if we we're we're just looking today so we can actually say something about about two of the pickups we have already made in indiana too in indiana eight and uh kentucky three now in ohio 15 this is deborah price who is considered a very endangered republican running against mary jo kilroy 83 of the vote in 50 50. 600 votes separate them let's go over to illinois 6. this one before you go over there i want you to go down to florida 16 because this is mark foley's seat his name is there even though he's in rehab that's right joe negron the republican who was actually would take the seat uh has the burden of telling people please vote for mark foley who resigned in disgrace if you want to vote for me that race was considered lost by republicans they've had they've been more optimistic 84 percent of the vote in and they are you know one percentage point apart but i'd like to go to illinois six oh before you go back we've just been able to make a projection over here in kentucky for the davis lucas race we

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in kentucky for the davis lucas race we project that the republican will in fact hold on to his seat and the democrat lucas will not be able to overcome that challenge well that is a spark of good news for republicans because that was a seat that democrats had definitely targeted but it's the seat in illinois this is henry illinois six henry hyde the legendary republican retiring after i think 16 terms in the house the democrats put up what they call one of the fighting democrats tammy duckworth who had lost both legs in iraq she is trailing the republican peter peter but it's only 14 of the precincts reporting right right now i'm very interested in florida house 22 clay shaw that he is the longtime republican incumbent 76 of the precincts reporting this is the fort lauderdale area down there and uh his opponent seems to be slightly ahead 51 47 clearly too early to call let's move on a little bit now connecticut 2 we've talked about endangered moderate republicans rob simmons a very popular incumbent who fought for the submarine base in new london but connecticut is a blue state he is holding his own with them with 41 percent of the vote in running 50 50. uh let's look at pennsylvania we're going to take a break right now from this we're going to continue to look at these races it's fascinating come on follow me back here because lou dobbs has got a special guest that he's going to talk to absolutely well thank you very much jeff thank you we're going to turn to uh democratic headquarters again on this night of uh hotly contested races in the house and the senate and turn to rahm emanuel he's the chairman of the democratic congressional campaign committee ron good to see you uh the evening with three pickups in the senate you've got to feel pretty good about that it looks like a real contest underway in the house at this point how do you feel there well i mean i was based on some of the results like in

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results like in connecticut five uh in the indiana two and eight uh we have some different numbers in indiana nine but also in new hampshire uh we count here uh plus seven already uh so i feel very very good uh that we are you know at least uh it's an evening is early but we're halfway around the bend already halfway around the bend you said uh a couple of days ago that you certainly would rather be you than the other guys uh give us a sense of how you feel right now tonight about uh picking up a majority in the house ready i'm gonna be consistent i'd rather be us than them i tried to take that away from you but if you you hey look here's the deal we're getting a lot of results in that you guys have yet to post if you look at what places like in uh pennsylvania you look at uh connecticut you look at new hampshire you look at indiana you look at kentucky uh you look at even kansas you look at the florida 22 it is uh democrats are poised and i don't you know we have a we have yet to get west to the mississippi i feel very good about the numbers we're starting to see across both pennsylvania connecticut and upstate new york and referring to the new hampshire race uh we're we're projecting uh hode's beating charlie bass at this point he's a cnn projected winner and lou what's consistent though is look at this what people are saying is we need a change washington just isn't getting it anymore and that race was not even on anybody's screen uh for about four until about three weeks ago i've talked to paul three times tonight and uh that is a big victory uh over charlie bass but again what was the central issue there the war what was the central intro issue in the nancy johnson chris murphy race nancy johnson is the author of the prescription drug bill and she ran against the state senator who ran had a record on health care issues she lost what's the number one issue for the democrats we are going to have

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the democrats we are going to have direct negotiations for prescription drug prices lowering those prices that is a big bellwether race a big bellwether race you're feeling still like you'd rather be you than the other guys tonight we'll take that as your uh your best uh so that's all you're going to get from a middle kid you got it rahm emanuel chairman of the democratic campaign committee we appreciate it uh anderson over to you lou thanks one of our many well strategies this year has been to get uh iraq war veterans to run tammy duckworth probably knows most notably you were out there covering that campaign at this point not many of the precincts have reported in in that race uh a wise strategy it seems look she was not just and she didn't really run on the war she didn't have to this is a woman that lost both legs uh in a a attack a grenade attack so she didn't ever really have to bring up the war she said look what we need is a plan i'm not a cut and run but i really want to see a plan she said from her hospital bed she looked up and realized that only two members of congress had a child that was over there so there was a lot going on in this race but if you asked both of those candidates what it was about they would tell you health care uh they would tell you the economy they didn't see the war as a big factor but she was a living symbol of the cost of this war james carville said earlier he sees the war as a big factory call it the the elephant not only in this room but probably in a lot of the voting booths around the country you see that being born out tonight oh yeah absolutely i think candice right tammy duckworth didn't have to raise the war as an issue it's a very conservative district it's currently held by henry hyde one of the most conservative members of the house but her whole bearing brings it out in pennsylvania patrick murphy a young army captain who served in iraq and also taught at west point is running a strong race in the philadelphia suburbs and just north of there joe sesdak who's a three-star admiral is running these are not your grandfather's democrats right these as the marcus was saying about the republicans this is a different type of democrat

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democrat rahm emanuel did a terrific job of going around the country and finding these uh young heroes and recruiting them to run for the democratic party good critics of the democrats response on the war or saying look all the democrats are talking about is is criticizing the president they don't have a strategy of their own well two things it's early i may regret this but if the if the 800-pound gorilla as james said is the war and george bush i do not see this overwhelming wave of anger against george bush it looks to me like the democrats are crawling to what will probably be a majority but you know six years six year term after the sixth year the six year itch you almost always get 20 25 seats i do not see this overwhelming uh rejection of the president uh or uh what he's doing and what he stands for now the question is and i'm sorry do you say

that based on the tight races that are still going on in virginia these things are very tight look we lost rick santorum obviously he was a strong defender of the war we lost and north these are bodied blows no doubt about it but some people were predicting a kind of tidal wave that the country was so angry with george bush so angry with the war that this thing would just sweep from the east to the west we are certainly not seeing that however i mean the responsible point to make is this if you do see a democrat majority in the house of representatives then we want to see what it is they propose will they propose cutting off appropriations uh for the war other resolutions other actions howard dean said no look nobody's happy uh with the situation in iraq but what do you do i heard howard dean say earlier and this i don't think i'd heard him before say it we're not saying we should leave so with with the power will come responsibility but i do not see this massive rejection i would congratulate rahm emanuel your your buddy he's done a very good job of recruiting people and i'm delighted to see these soldiers running for office i think it's great i would like to know how the soldier votes going in these districts we do men we do women i'd like to know where soldiers would be interesting do you see a wave james carville uh bossy i see two two countries the south the republicans are doing quite well outside the south they're doing quite poorly and if you you look here

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poorly and if you you look here i think the big story at the end of this night is is that there there was some kind of a tide or wave or whatever you want to call it in places like uh indiana obviously going to probably see it in ohio you're going to see it in pennsylvania you're not seeing it in the southern states and and that's going to mean that the republican party is going to be much much more of a southern based political party after tonight the democrats have not traditionally done well in the south and it doesn't look like they're doing very well in the south tonight so i think that's the big regional story that's coming out this election at least at this junction what do the democrats do about iraq if they take the house well i think bill minute is right they don't defund the war that's ultimately how we wound up getting out of vietnam but that was after 20 years i don't think that's going to happen it's not in the cards you'll have a few people calling for things like that but i think what they're going to do if they're wise is first and foremost try to just to hold oversight it's the one thing that the president needs most from the congress that they haven't given him hold hold the pentagon's feet to the fire hold donald rumsfeld's feet to the fire most democrats would like to see the president fire mr rumsfeld there's a lot of stuff like that they can do nobody wants 535 secretaries of defense but i think collectively the house and the senate ought to get together and and really press the president to make a change at the pentagon i think that would be enough nobody wants to say the democratic majority to say okay here's how many troops should be in basra versus baghdad that's the job for the chief executive do you think that will be enough because if that's all they do then don't they get criticized for just kind of allowing this thing to restaurant the the political lynch mob after rumsfeld may be satisfied viscerally by getting after him and sacking him but everything that's been said has been predicated it seems to me on the notion that action has to be taken things have to be done we have to change course we have to do what mirth is saying or with something else so i just don't think it will do to say now we're going to have oversight hearings you've got people dying in iraq you've got these this terrible struggle for power you've got people saying let's get this thing resolved to have oversight looks a little bit still like continuing

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looks a little bit still like continuing to second guess and not to have a plan for winning the thing or whatever else is done i don't think that'll work i don't think that's enough i i think and i've again i've said before that i think when the benchmark is americans lives being lost you know weekly basis and more money being spent on a weekly basis if that's the benchmark we lose republicans lose the president loses americans lose there has to be a plan and i think the administration has failed to talk about their plan every day to win the american people want us to win and i think this is a challenge for the democrats okay if you're in the if you're in the majority now if you're in charge what is your plan to win and and your plan to win can't be just being against the president's plan and to this point that's pretty much what we what we've heard i think the american people are saying to republicans democrats what's your plan to win is oversight enough for the democrats well first of all i had no idea by thanksgiving we've been in iraq along with world war ii i mean we

defeated imperial japan and nazi germany and and and by everybody's estimation we slide anyway if the president has a plan to win no one's seen it all right and and secondly i think what the democrats are going to wisely do is they have to bake a hamilton commission i think that they're going to wait for these recommendations to come in obviously they're not going to recommend the president's plan and i think he's going to have a democratic congressional majority but strengthen democratic presence in the senate it looks like now it may not be a majority we'll have to wait and see and that's going to put the president alone against the congressional democrats the baker people and a lot of republicans who have a very serious problems with the lack of strategy that we have in iraq right now we're going to talk a lot more about iraq in the hours ahead right now though senator john kerry is introducing deval patrick the new governor of massachusetts let's listen in history tonight because we have re-elected

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re-elected for an unprecedented ninth time the greatest senator in the history of the united states senate ted kennedy and we have made history not just here but across the country because it is clear from those who are winning in america that americans are voting not just for democrats or for republicans they are voting to end the politics of smear and fear they want a change and today and today especially important to all of us is the fact that massachusetts has kept faith with the most important of all american dreams and promises that whether you're the son of a school teacher in worcester or a kid from the south side of chicago whether you're black or white whether you're rich or poor america is a place where hard work and vision and dreams become a reality and right here in massachusetts for tim murray for deval patrick for democrats independence and yes even for some republicans across the state of massachusetts that is exactly what happened today that dream became real they won big and so did massachusetts now obviously uh we have projected lieberman the winner in connecticut very closely watch race let's listen lieutenant governor let me tell you we

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lieutenant governor let me tell you we have a proven leader who knows what it takes to build community hey nick well i love you i'm joe lieberman and i approve of this election and not only that and not only that i deeply appreciate this election thank you jimmy ehman thank you mike jarjura thank you john picard kevin cunningham mike coffey and herb grant the group from the norwalk common council and so many others from public life who are up here dear friends thanks to the labor leaders who are with me and the fire fighters and that's joe lieberman speaking in connecticut thanking the many people who supported him and got him to where he is now we're going to take a short break and our coverage america votes 2006 continues [Music] senator hillary rodham clinton reelected tonight in new york state she's speaking right now let's listen in briefly culture of corruption and the dominance of special interests and a new beginning for our beloved country

[03:52:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=13921s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=13921s)

so i thank all of you i thank you for walking the precincts for phoning your friends for emailing everyone you know for driving voters to the polls for making this wonderful victory possible but i am prepared to roll up my sleeves and get to work with our next governor elliot spitzer and our next lieutenant governor david patterson and our wonderful attorney general all right hillary rodham clinton re-elected no great surprise there she did spend millions and millions of dollars to get herself re-elected there are two more pickups we can now report project in the u.s house of representatives for the democrats first of all in pennsylvania uh in pennsylvania the seventh district of pennsylvania a long time republican kurt weldon goes down goes down to defeat joe sestak who is his democratic challenger will become the next united states congressman from the seventh district of pennsylvania this is a pickup for the democrats another pickup jeff is in ohio in the 18th district there zach space the democratic challenger beating joy padgett the republican incumbent this is another pickup right now for the democrats and what do these two what do these two have in common the issue of corruption kurt weldon's offices were raided by federal authorities looking for evidence of financial chicanery

earmarks his daughter was a lobbyist and in ohio 18 that was bob naito the congressman who is uh an involuntary guest to the federal government for his involvement with the jack abramoff scandal that was a reliably republican district but as you can see zak space is winning that seat handily joe sestak also is a retired of admiral vice admiral so i guess you could call him one of the fighting democrats that we've been talking about all night a lot

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we've been talking about all night a lot of the democratic candidates of the house have military backgrounds making the national security issue more on their side and this is at least six pickups for the democrats in the house of representatives we cannot project the winner in the race for the governor of florida charlie crist the republican will succeed jeb bush as the united as the next governor from the state of florida charlie crist who had effectively snubbed the president in the final day of campaigning by not going to the president's rally in pensacola he goes on to win the state of florida right succeeding uh jeb bush a very popular two-term governor who of his name warren bush might be a contender for 08 but this is a this is a i guess a whole i think a lot of people raised their eyebrows including people on the white house staff when mr crist decided that he could be better used elsewhere but maybe that's maybe that strategy worked for him because uh we are projecting that charlie crist uh beats jim davis and will be the next governor from the state of florida the republicans hold their own one very quick note when we talk about a tied or a non-todd we need to remember that many of the endangered republican districts in new york in ohio some in pennsylvania have not yet been called one way or the other not yet been projected and we have not yet crossed the mississippi as rahm emanuel reminded us so we really have no notion of the dimensions of what's going to happen tonight until some of these races are finally decided all right kurt weldon goes down and bob ney seat which was republican will now return democratic we're going to update our viewers right now it's about 10 43 p.m on the east coast on this election night with polls now closed in 44 states cnn projects democrats will take gop held senate seats in ohio pennsylvania and rhode island and will successfully defend their own seats in new jersey and maryland both of those seats heavily targeted by the republicans that puts them at this point halfway to the net gain of six seats they need to capture a majority in the united states senate it's by no

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in the united states senate it's by no means an easy chore because these other four seats at least are very very close right now the republican candidates and the democratic candidates all doing very very well they're both hovering around the 50 mark we're watching very closely virginia tennessee montana and missouri we're also watching uh all of the other states that were that that are very very close in the house of representatives the democrats have not yet by our count picked up their 15 seats lou has got a special guest lou thank you very much wolf we want to turn now to senator barack obama uh senator obama good to have you here you've been out working very hard uh your candidates and it appears that in large measure this early we can say your work is being rewarded uh still three senate seats needed uh for the democrats to take control of the senate uh what what is your thought right now well look i i think it's clear that the voters uh are looking for change and that what i is what i think this election has been about where democrats have successfully made the case for change i think they're going to win i think that the pickups that we have indicate uh some deep concern on the part of the american people that we haven't been pursuing practical common sense solutions on the issues that affect their lives issues like the minimum wage issues like making sure our kids are prepared for math and science rising health care costs rising tuition costs and most of all a sense that it's been a little too ideologically driven not enough driven by the facts on the ground and so i think this is probably going to be an opportunity for democrats uh to to help forge a different direction and hopefully we're going to seize it tonight virginia tennessee two races uh far too close to

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tennessee two races uh far too close to call harold ford jr considered to be one of the best candidates if not the best candidate in terms of his campaign skills and his record are you surprised at the performance at this point look the uh harold ford jr is uh the best campaigner uh that i've seen in a long time and uh it's a testament to his skills uh that this race is even close tennessee historically has been a very republican state and i think that he has performed magnificently i'm hoping that as the results carry forward at the end of it that he will be one of my colleagues in the united states senate and amongst your colleagues in the united states senate uh no matter how these last three seats are decided the issue of iraq the democratic party in this campaign has succeeded in putting it to the forefront for a public choice do you think that this election irrespective of whether or not you take control of the senate irrespective of whether you take control of the house that the focus on iraq will result in a new policy direction well look i i think the american people voted for a change of course in iraq uh i don't think we have great options in iraq i think we've got uh bad options and worse options uh and and part of that has to do with the mistakes of the past but moving forward i hope that you've got the the baker hamilton commission that's going to be putting a report forward i hope that gives republicans who have started to recognize the enormous problems with the president's strategy a place to land i think democrats have to be constructive in trying to find a way to change the dynamic there i personally believe that the only way we can get iraqis to take more responsibility is to begin a phased withdrawal but i think that's something that can only be discussed in the context of something

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discussed in the context of something that keeps our troops secure and prevents uh complete collapse of the country so it can't be precipitous and i think that the joint chiefs of staff and particularly the military who are actually in iraq have to be part of that decision-making barack obama the we thank you very much for being here senator barack obama thank you sir and we're going to turn now to anderson cooper anderson lou thanks very much we can project actually another race right now the 11th district in north carolina we can project that heath schuler has won that race a democrat he ran against charles uh taylor eight-term republican incumbent candy crowley traveled to north carolina profiled a heath schuler in the broken government series surprise no i mean this is you know he's young he's energetic he used to play in the nfl return quarterback returning to washington where he wasn't that popular for quarterback so um but he's he is one of those we're talking about is that the southern template he is he was virtually indistinguishable from his republican opponent on the social issues he was very strong on the military the fact of the matter is in this district there are more democrats registered than there are republicans but the district kept voting republican because it is so conservative he came he gave them he took the social issues off the table gun god's gays you know this is a man who doesn't drink coffee or tea he wouldn't debate on a sunday because he wanted to go to church with his family so he took all those issues that have removed democrats from the south largely and went ahead with the other issues and strong on defense that kind of thing and ousted a uh eight-term republican we should also just remind our viewers this is the the seventh pickup for the democrats in the house they need eight more in order to take control of the house those are the numbers we are watching very carefully obviously three more pickups needed in the senate side uh this race uh it was a very interesting race i mean there are some

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interesting race i mean there are some how please can liberal democrats be tonight i mean so many of the democrats who seem to be doing well are far more conservative than than the liberals well they will be happy if they take power in the house and nancy pelosi is speaker because then they will control the house they will control the committees most of the chairman of those committees those democrats waiting to be chairman most of them i think you would classify as liberals but i'm sure they will also realize they need to heed the message of this so far though heath schuler is an anomaly we're seeing it's the first one we're still waiting for a number of southern states to come in we have the southern and the border states a few democratic pickups most of the republican losses so far though have been in the northeast and i think it's in the mid-atlantic i think what james was saying earlier is a very significant dynamic if you have a northeast midwest center democratic party a southern dominated republican party it affects the politics in congress

because they vote different on guns they vote different on gods and gays they vote different on energy issues so the the regional divide may become a big subplot in our politics going forward the the uh the ballot initiatives there have been eight in in eight states uh this time around uh to ban same-sex marriage how have they has that generated as much excitement as it did among conservative voters that it did two years ago it always gets them out to vote i think and we'll we'll see what happens in virginia we'll see what happens in these i mean to me the one that that as far as we can see traveling the country that generated the most excitement was actually stem cell that seems to be the new issue and it breaks really uh more for moderate republicans and democrats who tend to be for it and in fact it was what jim talent the uh incumbent republican senator in missouri who is in quite a race with claire mccaskill for his seat um was sort of stuck because he had moderate republicans who favored this stem cell and then he had his conservative christians who didn't so he was sort of right it tends to be the perfect issue for democrats to put out there uh because in fact it tends to divide republicans so i think in terms of gay marriage yes it still brings evangelicals out but the

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still brings evangelicals out but the more the more scintillating sort of fiery debate this time around was about stem cell research and we continue to to watch the uh the ballot initiative in missouri for the final results on that we'll bring that to you of course when it happens let's go to wolf right now anderson thanks very much i want to pay attention to what's happening in florida right now there's joe negron he's the republican candidate to fill the seat of mark foley who's in rehab right now the congressional page scandal right now with 91 percent of the votes counted we have his opponent tim mahoney with 49 percent uh to negron even though you see the name foley negron a vote for foley was really a vote for joe negron it looks like he was just conceding there in that statement uh joe negron uh the uh the republican candidate for mark foley's seat it was an uphill struggle for him if it turns up as close as it is let's listen briefly when i do that i want to introduce my parents and my in-laws my parents came down here from marietta georgia to campaign joe and pat negron and joe and sandy horton and the other person that i want to thank because she was the architect of this entire campaign i want to ask her to come up and that's sherry van kira so all right in his statement that he just made he called to congratulate his opponent tim mahoney and to congratulate him on his win we have not yet projected a winner it's uh

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have not yet projected a winner it's uh 91 of the precincts reporting uh he has projected that tim mahoney his opponent will win uh i suspect we're about to project it as well but this is the mark foley seat in west palm of course it really goes across much of the middle part of florida right there it was a major major struggle for the republicans if mark foley uh would that that scandal would not have erupted it was almost a sure win for him he had an easy road ahead of him but clearly mark foley had a serious problem had to resign from the u.s house of representatives and as of last word we're told he's still in rehab he says for alcohol abuse but joe negron who had a run with mark foley's name on the ballot conceding defeat congratulating tim mahoney the democrat that's another pickup for the democrats right now and slowly but surely they seem to be getting closer and closer to that magic number of 15. they need 15 of those republican seats they have to take those 15 republican seats in order to be the majority in the u.s house of representatives that would make nancy pelosi the next speaker of the house the first woman ever to be speaker of the house of representatives hasn't happened yet they're still not there at that magic number of 15 and remember if they pick up 15 they can't lose any of their democratic health seats right now so we're watching all of this very closely but we're getting another pickup right now for the democrats take a look at this don sherwood the republican congressman from pennsylvania the 10th district he will lose uh to uh his uh challenger over here kearney the 54 to 46 don sherwood ran an extraordinary campaign acknowledging an extramarital affair apologizing to his district also being sued by his ex-mistress for some sort of abuse uh paying her off with some sort of legal settlement

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with some sort of legal settlement clearly that's not what the people in uh the 10th the 10th district and pennsylvania wanted and don sherwood the longtime republican incumbent uh losing according to our projection this is another pickup for the democrats right now jeff let's talk a little bit about this extraordinary race in pennsylvania you know it's hardly a national trend but i can't remember a campaign when so many incumbents have gotten in trouble on domestic issues and by domestic issues i don't mean health care or tax policy but problems ranging from uh you know domestic abuse charges to infidelity to the ingestion of various products to the mark foley case and i think it's really even if it doesn't show up in the polls because people don't like to answer that they care about such matters i think this whole aura has really contributed if the democrats take over the house tonight to a feeling that it's time to change leadership chris carney his democratic opponent ran obviously a very good campaign it's never easy to beat an incumbent and in this particular case don sherwood certainly helped the democrat a lot when you open your campaign with a tv commercial that you paid for saying i'm really sorry i cheated on my wife but i really didn't choke that woman this is not how you want to start your re-election campaign i think we can both agree as trained professionals this is not a good way to launch a bid free election i think the voters are responding it's almost 11 pm on the east coast more states will be closing their voting in a few minutes and about three minutes from now what should we be looking for question one arnold arnold arnold the governor of california left for politically dead a year ago and his attempts at reform flop made his peace with the democratic state legislature and appears if the pre-election polls are right on his way to victory he wasn't born in the united states so he can't think about the white house glitches recounts voter chaos maybe in the next hour or two we'll be able to learn whether or not the introduction of all these new voting machines

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all these new voting machines uh has produced chaos or not and whether or not there are races that are so close it's going to be days before we can decide them uh question three did the exit polls work uh we have not heard any anything like we had in in 2000 and 2002 and 2004 maybe they finally figured this one out and the last question i have is who is looking good or bad for oh eight i think we've all taken a vow not to start talking about this tonight but clearly whether it's george allen who is probably not going to run for president john kerry with his botched joke mitt romney who might be saying you know what the republicans may be looking for a non-washington face we're going to be assessing in the next few days who came out of this campaign in better or worse shape those are good questions that we're going to be assessing obviously throughout the night anderson cooper as we watch all of this and we're going to go back to some of these races at 11 p.m in a few minutes california hawaii idaho oregon washington state will be watching those very closely uh it looks like the democrats are getting increasingly closer and closer to that magic number of 15. it certainly does our poll here our group here has been watching very closely what do you make of these latest developments well they're inching inching and inching the question is will you have a democratic majority which i think if you had to make a guess tonight based on the trends we're seeing it looks like they will get there in the house in the house in the house in the senate we have the republican firewall holding at the moment what does that mean it means divided government we had divided government back in the clinton years when the republicans ran the congress and you had a democratic president if we have divided government again it will be a big change for the psychology of george w bush who has had republican majorities that have largely gone his way lately some rumblings about iraq but it would be a very different president bush waking up in the white house tomorrow having to make some decisions could make some progress on issues like immigration might have to concede on the minimum wage to the democrats but what happens with iraq a very new dynamic a big test for this president less than one minute before the polls close marcus mabry what are you going to be watching for in this next hour well in this next hour we'll be watching california see how big that victory is on the part of republican governor when the few republicans win big tonight's

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the few republicans win big tonight's going to be schwarzenegger but i'm also going to be interesting to see what's happening in montana because it's going to be an interesting question that what's what's happened so far has actually been bad for uh conservative republicans because conservative running against conservative democrats and that's what we have in john tester and conrad burns let's go back to will for the poll for the results right now thanks anderson very much in a few seconds we'll be able to make some projections out on the west coast it's approaching 11 p.m right now the state of california hawaii among others they're going to be closing their a surprise we are not yet ready to project the winner of the california gubernatorial race but we are ready to project the winners of dianne feinstein and daniel akaka let's go to connecticut the fifth congressional district in connecticut right now another major pickup for the democrats in connecticut right now take a look at this in the fifth in the fifth district of connecticut nancy johnson the republican incumbent losing to chris murphy right now with 43 of the precincts reporting 56 44 but based on all of the information we're getting murphy will win beating the incumbent johnson and by our account this would be the 10th democratic pickup in the house of representatives remember that magic number is 15 they need five more without losing any of their democratic held seats among the 435 seats in the u.s house of representatives they've picked up 10 republican seats by our projections they need five more if they get those five they will be in the majority and they will presumably pick nancy pelosi to be the speaker of the house of representatives anderson i guess the democrats are getting a little bit more uh i guess anticipating a victory in the house five more five more seats are needed in the house and of course still three more in the senate uh but as john king said that firewall is still holding up very strong uh bill bennett we should

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very strong uh bill bennett we should also point out that michael steele lieutenant governor in maryland has not conceded cnn has projected he has lost but he is not conceding at this point yeah just when i said he should move to virginia i got a bunch of emails and phone calls saying we have not conceded and it looks to us like it's even so we'll wait and see i i know uh you all we all projected but let's wait and see what are you looking for in this next hour or what are you seeing so far well i i think um you know anderson when you look at hostella north of johnson and connecticut losing those kind of races i think very good effective members but we felt like that was going to be tough to sustain those seats in this environment but when you get to start when you start losing charlie bass we're keeping our endeavor price up in ohio uh those type of seats you're kind of getting into the muscle of that uh of the republican conference and so i i said yesterday 18 to 20 seats i don't know what's going to happen but i do think they're crawling and getting there slowly but surely do you think the republicans will hold on to the senate i do i do yes bill bennett you agree with that what do you think yeah i don't think the democrats take the senate i've been pretty consistent on that for a while because of the geography now it's also because only one-third of the senate is up you know the entire house is up and i think that's why democrats are doing better this is just a bad year to be a republican yes there there are those scandal seats that we talked about don sherwood had this problem with allegedly uh having some domestic violence but regionally i'm trying to say the polite way i know but uh he allegedly chose right you you slapped him allegedly in front of there you can say anything okay well i was educated as a lawyer so i think that's there's some of that right but maybe even as many as 10 seats my republican friends say but there's a regional thing that's going on here and it's the president stupid

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stupid right i mean nancy johnson is a popular long-term veteran incumbent successful congresswoman you know come january she's an ex-congresswoman and it's not because all of a sudden she got stupid or untalented it's because she was hitched to a very unpopular president he was going to be submitted to that if rob summons and crochets and those two are still outstanding so that theory doesn't necessarily hold up just got some more pickups all right anderson thanks very much we're getting uh three more projected democratic pickups in the house of representatives in arizona uh jeff greenfield take a look at this randy graf the republican incumbent losing in that arizona the eighth district in arizona this is a major pickup for the democrats it is randy graf won a primary against the candidate that the establishment republicans wanted he read a very very very strong immigration message he won the prime minister this is the that's right the

retiring jim colby the only openly gay member of the republican refused to endorse him uh and that was a district that was looked to be in trouble for the republicans and indeed randy griff has gone down the defeat here's another pickup in florida the 22nd district clay shaw the longtime republican incumbent we project we'll lose and that's another case of a of a incumbent who when this year started would have been on nobody's endangered list he's a as you say a long-term incumbent he's a relative moderate certainly for florida republicans but he has gone down to defeat it will be the next united states congressman from that district which is part of fort lauderdale and that whole area down in florida now take a look at the ninth district in indiana as well this is another democratic pickup yes and it is a flip-flop flip baron hill who lost two years ago by about 1500 votes has now reclaimed his seat by not quite the same margin but by a very narrow margin indiana nine just keeps going back and forth for republican the democrats but you now see something interesting three different states three uh two solidly republican seats in

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three uh two solidly republican seats in one swing district all going to the democrats and here here's another democratic pickup just coming in new york state in the 20th district a long time republican john sweeney losing right now this is a major pickup in the northeast for the democrats remember my conversation about domestic issues uh john sweeney uh was a very popular republican but a report of a police uh visiting the home of congressman sweeney embroiled in a domestic dispute with his wife turn turn that race around john sweeney and kirsten gillibrand is going to be elected the democratic congresswoman from new york state in the 20th district john sweeney the long time republican incumbent losing according to our projection anderson they're getting if they're not at 15 yet they're almost there very close indeed amy walter with the cook political report is monitoring this all for us what do you make of it well it's going along at quite a clip here in these last couple of minutes where you see democrats john sweeney just losing in upstate new york that was a very close race that was where sort of the bottom dropped out for sweeney these last two weeks with the accusations that had come out in the campaign and it looks like now you're going to see democrats also picking up a seat in new hampshire they've already picked up a seat in new hampshire they've already picked up a seat in in in the other suburban district up there in connecticut nancy johnson's seat so these are these three very swing districts two of them uh districts one by john kerry or democrats um i've been able to knock off long time in some cases long-time incumbents who've been able to hold on to their seats even as the national party wasn't doing well this time they're running against such a big headwind those republican incumbents just couldn't make sure in florida clay shaw and florida twenty-two same thing i mean these are long-time republicans they have won through thick and thin and this is what republicans said early on they said our guys are prepared they're battle tested they can win these seats the problem was they they did and they

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the problem was they they did and they some of them read very good campaigns but they couldn't beat the environment though mark foley's seat joe negron he's conceded now but a very close race looks like it's too close to call so i always expect that maybe he knows something that none of us know that it may be just one of those races where he's seeing numbers that we can't see from here he's gets him on the ground and let's go back to wolf blitzler who has some some new information about the house wolf cnn projects that when all of the votes are in all right i think we are now ready to make a major projection uh in the house of representatives based on all the projections we've made so so far it now looks like the democrats will in fact win control of the house of representatives capturing those 15 seats they need without losing their own seats a net a net gain of 15 we can now project that the democrats will be the majority in the next house of representatives that means nancy pelosi will be the speaker of the house that means democrats will be in charge of all of the various committees in the house of representatives it will represent a significant change in the balance of power between the executive and the legislative branches of the u.s government the democrats had hoped that they would get those 15 seats without losing any of their own it now appears based on our projection that the democrats have done precisely that and they will be the majority party in the house of representatives can't say that for the democrats in the senate they've picked up a net gain of three

so far they need three more in the senate there are still some very very close races out there so we don't know what's going to happen finally in the senate but we can't project that the democrats win control of the house of representatives a lot of happy democrats out there right now and presumably some nervous republicans because with the majority status in the house of representatives the democrats will be able to engage in

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the democrats will be able to engage in much more robust oversight of the bush administration including the subpoena power if they decide to go down that road we're going to be hearing from the new leadership in the democratic party and the house of representatives presumably throughout the night we'll bring you what they have to say but we can now project that the democrats will be the majority in the house of representatives jeff greenfield well 12 years of republican rule come to an end what we do not know is the margin whether the democrats are gonna be in power with four or five seats or ten or fifteen seats that can make a huge difference uh nancy pelosi has already said that in their first not hundred days i think but almost hundred hours they they are going to offer a specific series of proposals i they look to me to be very focused group tested for maximum appeal raising the minimum wage implementing the 911 commissions uh stem cell research making it possible for the federal government to negotiate for lower prices on prescription controls and they are saying in no uncertain terms no we are not interested in impeachment we are interested in a middle class agenda the interesting question wolf is when you look at the democrats who will take over committee chairs these are some of the old liberal lions in the house and for weeks republicans have been saying do you really want charlie rangel of new york running the ways and means committee which does taxes do you really want john conyers at the judiciary committee do you want nancy pelosi from san francisco which is a code word that i think has a pretty clear meaning of extreme liberal do you want her running the congress well that's what we're going to have and one more quick point when these moderate and conservatives come in okay hold up hold that thought i want to go to dana bash she's in washington over at democratic party headquarters dana they must be very very excited right now based on our projection that the democrats will be the majority in the house of representatives i think you can hear them because i can barely hear you over the screaming behind me uh certainly the people here democratic

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uh certainly the people here democratic aids staffers from around washington here to celebrate and they're definitely celebrating as you can hear behind me but not to rain on their parade but i can tell you we're talking to a democratic leadership source here uh they are not ready for the leaders to come down and claim victory yet why because there are actually two incumbent democratic house members in the state of georgia who they're a little bit worried about right now so if they don't win and perhaps two other seats are not taken from republicans they don't get to that part but they don't get to that point of 15 seats so they're cautious right now they're going to wait and see what happens in those two seats of georgia we're going to watch that very closely dana the leadership of the democratic party they basically have gathered where you are right now is that right well that's right we have the senate leadership the senate leader harry reid as well as the man who was in charge of getting democrats elected to the senate chuck schumer they are upstairs in a suite on this hotel where i am but the democratic leader nancy pelosi as well as other members of the leadership are actually across town hunker down at the uh at the democratic headquarters but we do expect them to come over here but again they are waiting to see what happens in these two seats in georgia remember president bush just last week went down to campaign for a republican challenger there wasn't a lot of that at all this year of course most of the incumbents were republicans but again there are two democrats we'll see what happens so they're going to wait and see how the math plays out over the next few minutes or so to see whether or not they can come down and celebrate like the people here are behind me all right dana we'll be watching together with you once again cnn now projects that the democrats will be the majority party in the next house of representatives they will have the necessary seats when the dust settles when all is said and done the democrats will have picked up their minimum of 15

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will have picked up their minimum of 15 seats that they need anderson cooper let's get some assessment from our analysts uh john kane what do you make of it well we're gonna have to wait for those two georgia seats or if they lose one or two of those for them to be offset elsewhere as we move to the west and get more results but this projection by all accounts and by the trends we're seeing will hold up and it is a fascinating moment for the country you will have the democrats running the house the senate is still an open question mark nancy pelosi was vehemently critical fiercely critical of this president saying he doesn't listen he doesn't get it he's been lying to the american people war in iraq president bush was on the road this last week saying nancy pelosi keeps saying she won't raise your taxes but she will a lot of personal rhetoric thrown back and forth between the woman who will be the speaker of the house of representatives and the man who is still president for two more years after this election they will say nice things tonight they will promise to work together the interesting thing i would love to listen into the phone conversation when george w bush has to pick up the phone and call nancy pelosi and say congratulations madam speaker maybe they'll record that somewhere maybe but i i doubt it i mean you know what what sort of um strikes me is that there was this big uh democratic push for change we're going to change things we're going to change things but when it gets right down to it it's going to be very difficult to change things you are going to have a divided government even if the democrats take the senate because you've got a man with veto power and i suspect he'll find a veto pen in the next couple of years uh so you have a man with veto power and let's say the senate does go democratic which we have no idea whether it will you still have a government that is divided so i think if people think that they voted for change and suddenly there's going to be this uh new direction uh will be disappointed come january good luck absolutely gridlock and i want to see what the president's going to do you know cheney's already told us what the white house is going to do when it comes to iraq which has changed nothing that's what the vice president of the united states already said it's gonna be interesting to see because don't forget this is a president who even when he had a republican congress often went around

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a republican congress often went around it or through it this is a president who signed more signing statements they're called which like an executive order allowing the executive branch to make a move without consulting with the legislative branch than any president in history so it's interesting to see what happens with democrats if he doesn't just go through them too let's check in with some of our analysts to see what they think about this bill bennett what does this mean to you well i disagree with the last point the president is willing to change things will change things he won't change his commitment uh in iraq but i think you will see some things the presidential sweepstakes begin on wednesday and what's going to be interesting is to see whether as several of us are saying i think paul as well he'd speak for himself whether it's a move toward the center especially with the election of some of these very centrist even conservative democrats nevertheless go through the list of the committee chairman who will be taking over that is a liberal group a very liberal group so we'll see that people will be you may have gridlock but the american people will be looking as we look toward 208 to see what people are saying and what they mean and what they stand for and that starts wednesday i know we're about to lose you because you're going to you've got your radio program 6 a.m on salem radio network and serious morning america what's your headline tomorrow on your radio program um the headline is it's this is the six year itch it's the second year of the second term democrats will take 22 it's my guess 21 maybe and no republicans hold the senate gridlock government the presidential campaign begins does president bush jc now have to change does he have to compromise more if he wants to get things done well i think he'll uh i think he'll have to be open to reaching out the american people if the american people have spoken and the democrats are going to control the house of representatives and they're going to control chairmanships and subcommittees and so forth and so on so he'll have to reach out and i suspect uh you know if things get too crazy he'll he'll be forced to use his veto pin so there's still still some options that he has but uh he's gonna have to be a lot more uh a lot more conciliators we've used that

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lot more conciliators we've used that veto pen once on the embryonic stem cell research uh initiative this summer uh nancy pelosi is speaker what does that mean well it means that there's a race to the center and which of these two big leaders now nancy pelosi and the president will be able to get there first okay i'm a democrat but i'm betting on nancy for other reasons too she she is a practical politician she grew up in baltimore her father was the mayor and she understands how to get to a majority and she understands her her majority is being given to her by moderate and conservative democrats president bush got along great with democrats in austin he has the capacity to work in a bipartisan fashion but he changed when he came to washington and decided to have a base driven strategy rigidly ideological uncompromising and that has fallen apart tonight so which of these you know ronald reagan worked quite well with tip o'neill and they didn't agree on anything bill clinton worked with with newt gingrich even when newt was impeaching him can president bush show that largeness of spirit i'm a doubter okay he's a nice man but i'm a real doubter that he has that greatness in him that reagan and clinton had uh very briefly james carville always briefly for me i'd like to plan with you next time that's all right i would like to remind everybody that in a six-year president clinton's term we had a popular president he actually picked up seats uh we we tend to forget after the first two years he lost him all the first excuse me for speaking while you interrupted mr bennett i i haven't interrupted you tonight and i would make up the point that president clinton had picked up five five seats uh this is we have a we have a story here and it's not a minor story the house representative is changing power and the democrats are gonna pick up seats in the united states senate uh i would expect that some people would thought of graciously say congratulations we look forward to working with you i think that'll happen congratulations we look forward to working with you thank you and we said that bill bennett's got to leave because uh you got to wake up early do your radio show at 6am tomorrow thank you for being with us we're going to talk to jesse in just a moment let's go back to wolf had another projection i believe all right anderson thank you very much we project that maria cantwell the incumbent democrat at washington state will be re-elected beating back a challenge from mike mcgavin

[04:32:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=16321s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=16321s)

challenge from mike mcgavin maria cantwell stays in the united states senate from washington state all right let's update our viewers jeff on where the balance of power in the united states senate stands right now based on what we know well we had 33 seats up and there are one two three four five six yet uncalled democrats need six seats to win if we if we give connecticut and vermont's independent senators lieberman and sanders to the democrats they now have 48 republicans have 46. if you assume as most people do that when arizona comes in john kyle will be re-elected that's not a certainty that's just an assumption and if you assume in nevada that john enzo will be reelected which virtually everybody assumes guess what you have with four seats outstanding we are at 48.48 and now we this is what's deciding it we look to tennessee where harold ford jr the democrat is locked in a tight race slightly trailing former chattanooga mayor bob corker we look to virginia where incumbent senator george allen has the last time i looked at an 11 000 vote lead over jim webb with about 97 percent of the vote in we we look to um montana we don't know what's going to happen there where conrad burns is battling john tester and we look to missouri where claire mccaskill and senator talent are locked in a very close race what needs to be said is the democrats need of the four competitive seats we talked about they need to win three of those four one more point if they don't do this if the republicans keep the senate this will be the first time since since senators were popularly elected that a party has taken the house without taking the senate there were some among us who believed those two go hand in glove it may not happen tonight wolf stand by for a moment jeff because i want to go to the uh the speaker of the house dennis hasterty speaking right now if in fact he concedes that the democrats

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in fact he concedes that the democrats will be the majority in the senate we'll listen closely let's listen in briefly you know there's a lot of great things we can continue to do we need to keep this country safe we have a great uh obligation to do that and a great challenge to do that we've been honored to be able to work on that since the 2005 and get it done we have a great opportunity to keep our economy rolling we've been able to do that we need to continue to do it we've watched some of the house races especially especially the

east been kind of tough out there but you know we got some opportunities in the west and maybe some pickups out there and we're going to continue to watch that the rest tonight i'll have a statement for the press tomorrow as far as far as the house of representatives but again in this race i just want to say to everybody thank you god bless you god bless america thank you very much all right dennis hastert he's been re-elected in his district in illinois the question is will he be speaker of the house we have projected the democrats will be in the majority and hastert will not be the speaker of the house presumably nancy pelosi the minority leader right now will emerge as the next speaker she would be the first woman ever in the history of the united states to be the speaker of the house of representatives after the vice president next in line to the presidency right now we've projected the democrats when all the votes are tallied when all the dust is settled the democrats will have enough seats to be in the majority in the united states senate united states house of representatives we're going to be speaking to ken melman the chairman of the republican party we're also going to update you on those four key senate races that right now hold the balance of power we'll give you the complete update and all the numbers that are coming in we're here at the cnn election headquarters in new york and we'll be right back

[04:36:07 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=16567s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=16567s)

[Music] approaching 11 30 p.m on the east coast the u.s house of representatives we've projected will be in the democratic majority when the dust settles later tonight the senate still remains in doubt the democrats have picked up three republican seats so far if they're going to be the majority in the senate though they must pick up three more a total of six and we've projected according to uh jeff greenfield has projected that these four open seats these four seats in the senate are still very much in play the democrats need to run three of them if they're going to be in the majority let's go one by one through them in missouri first well missouri senator talent holds a lead of about 55 000 votes over state owner claire mccaskill less than half of the votes in as you often point out and it's critical we don't know where the votes are coming from we know in missouri st louis and kansas city deliver for the democrats most of the rest of the state delivers to republicans that's what that's open montana we've only got four percent of the vote in john tester and conrad burns i have to say these numbers are interesting but essentially with only four percent of the vote and it's still way too early to tell here is the nail biter uh of the night 98 percent of the votes are in and alan george allen senator leads james webb by about 7 000 votes out of more than 2 million casts right and that margin of allen has been just shrinking ever so slightly every time they change the numbers in virginia if somebody wins by one percent or less the the loser has the right to demand a recount which

[04:38:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=16681s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=16681s)

has the right to demand a recount which must be granted and that's one state where it's incredibly close right now tennessee take a look at this well former chattanooga mayor bob corker holds a three percentage point lead i like to do real numbers that's about 50 it's about 46 000 votes if i do the arithmetic right 86 of the votes are in once again we don't know if memphis which is ford country is out is outstanding we don't know whether knoxville or nashville is but what we do know is it's very close but clearly of all of these races virginia is the one that is the closest but that may be cold comfort for democrats even if they overcome this they need three of these four states to take the senate and uh choose your cliché wolf inside straight from the table whatever it is we'll be here we'll be watching until it uh it's clearly resolved one way or another there's another ballot initiative that has received lots of national attention and that's in south dakota referendum six that effectively would help ban all abortions in the state of south dakota and take a look at this that referendum has been defeated we project by 55 right now with 38 percent of the precincts so reporting 55-45 in the actual confident looks we could project that that referendum will be defeated the the referendum the ban was the was a absolute gauntlet a catlett gauntlet thrown down in the face of roe versus wade because it would have made virtually no exceptions it would have been the most restrictive anti-abortion uh policy that any state would have tried to impose and it was a clear way of saying we want you to overturn roe versus wade but the voters appear to have stepped in and said you know what that's too much all right we're going to watch that as well suzanne malveaux is our white house correspondent she's got some information on what the president is planning on doing tomorrow suzanne well wolfe we have just learned that the president

is going to have a one o'clock press conference here at the white house also we've learned how the president found out about the news it was karl rove who told the president called him from his office to the residents about 10 or

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his office to the residents about 10 or 15 minutes ago to give him the news to say that in fact the house would now be taken by the democrats we are also told that the counselor to the president dan bartlett said that the president was very disappointed in the results the president is not going to be making any calls this evening he did make a call to the republican chair earlier today tom reynolds but we expect those calls will be made in the morning we are also told as well that the president continues to watch the results come in and that he is still optimistic that the republicans will keep the senate uh they have not given up on that so they are optimistic but clearly wolf this is a dramatic change for this white house this is a dramatic power shift there are a lot of questions about how this president will move forward and just how much political capital he has to move forward his agenda wolf all right suzanne we'll be taking that news conference 1 p.m tomorrow from the president live here on cnn thanks very much for that lou this is a major major change in in what's going on in washington with the house of representatives poised now to be controlled by the majority the democrats absolutely a big change for which a apparently the president nor the leader the republican national committee were prepared but cnn has projected of course that the house of representatives will be led in its new congress by uh nancy pelosi uh the uh who will become the first woman speaker of the house i want to turn now to ken mellman the chairman of the republican national committee uh can you uh you did not anticipate this uh the president obviously saying he's very disappointed first what is your reaction well my reaction is that there's still a lot of folks out west that are voting obviously the results in the east have been disappointing and challenging and it's possible that nancy pelosi will be the speaker we'll have to wait and see what ultimately comes out with respect to voting in the west i want to make sure people whatever their political party participate and that's obviously

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participate and that's obviously critically important wherever you are what i would say though is this i think we always recognize this was going to be a very challenging year you look at the president's typical six-year election in the president's term you've typically since world war ii lost more than 30 seats you also look whenever the nation's been at war the president's party typically loses seats what i think we've got to do is to continue to work recommit ourselves to the principles we believe in and try to work on a bipartisan basis to accomplish those principles i also hope that all of us take time and look after the o4 election i took a lot of time and i say how can we do a better job serving the principles we believe in the principles of limited government the principles of peace through strength the principles of free enterprise of judicial restraint these are principles that are critical to our party we've got to continue to look how we can work and in many ways work on a bipartisan basis to accomplish them uh to accomplish them and looking at the senate uh as uh wolf blitzer and jeff greenfield just uh went through uh the races in missouri tennessee uh virginia i mean these are remarkably close particularly you really are particularly in virginia uh we have been waiting about four and a half hours for the results uh out of virginia uh that race is about as tight as uh and i will assume as wolf did any suggestion from jeff greenfield that i resort to a cliché but that is an extremely tight race the idea that there was a a ban on gay marriage initiative in the on the ballot if it is helping uh george allen it certainly is not helping him much is it well i think at the end of the day people voted on the basis of the choice between george allen and jim webb obviously virginia is a state as you know lou that's in many ways changing it's a state where there's a lot of growth and this is going to be very close what's interesting to me is if you look at where most of the returns have come in from it strikes me that they've mostly already come in from northern virginia so i think while it's incredibly close i think george allen's lead looks to be pretty solid i'll tell you another state

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pretty solid i'll tell you another state though that you didn't mention that it's critical and that's maryland the washington post has withdrawn it's calling maryland for ben cardin maryland's a state that remains incredibly close there's a number of votes that need to come in we have the opportunity tonight let's see what happens potentially to make incredible history in maryland michael steele the first statewide african-american elected official not only would his election to the senate be historic for both parties in maryland it'd be historic for the republican party i think as well and for all americans and so the notion that that's a done one i don't agree with michael steele may make unbelievable history tonight in maryland which would be incredibly important for our for that state and for our country this network obviously cnn has also made the same projection uh for ben cardin over michael steele in that race do you anticipate that these races uh whether one includes maryland virginia certainly do you anticipate uh recounts and litigation well uh there could be i think under virginia law there may be an automatic recount that the state pays for uh each state is different we'll have to see where they come down having been through the 37 days of purgatory in florida right i can tell you that i hope that it's able to be resolved amicably and quickly i think that's in everybody's best interest but we'll have to see it a lot of it depends on what the local laws say these are obviously all close races i think virginia remains incredibly close and as i said keep your eye on maryland right now the numbers michael steele is way ahead in the early numbers and i think michael steele may have made unbelievably history not only in maryland but among african americans supporting a republican which i would personally find an incredible accomplishment i assure you we'll be keeping our eye on all of these races uh into the to the late hours thank you very much ken melvin chairman of the republican national committee america votes 2006 will continue we're going to be keeping our eyes and on those races and updating them right after this

[04:46:09 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=17169s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=17169s)

welcome back to cnn election headquarters in new york cnn has projected that the house of representatives will have a new majority the democratic party will be in the majority when the new house convenes we've projected that based on actual tallies plus exit polls but it still remains unclear what happens in the united states senate we have projected that there are at least three republican-held seats that will become democratic held seats in the united states senate but if the democrats hope to be the majority they must capture three more there are these four states jeff greenfield i want to go through one by one because this is the real drama that is unfolding right now these four states hold the potential for the republicans to remain in the majority in the senate or for the democrats to become the majority let's go first to missouri in missouri senator talent holds a six percentage point lead over claire mccaskill these numbers haven't moved slightly less than half the votes are in one key question did that embryonic stem cell initiative bring out moderates and liberals or do they bring out social conservatives to vote against them we'll find that out when the exit polls tell us four percent of the vote in montana where conrad burns who was pretty much given up for debt about a month ago is facing state senator john tester this was one of the great democratic hopes for victory it's titan four percent of the vote we can say nothing about that here what can you say about virginia other than it's incredibly close you can say that about two and a quarter million people have voted and seven six thousand votes separate senator george allen from jim webb and as we talked about a few minutes ago if this race comes in at one percent or less the loser can ask for a recount whether or not there are other issues here about long voter lines voting machines that didn't work that will all come out if this race comes down to be this close two percent of the precincts

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this close two percent of the precincts have not yet reported 98 of the precincts in virginia have reported we're going to see what happens but if there's a recount the state pays for that recount under state law right and we are trying to find out where the outlying votes are because that will make all the difference lastly tennessee bob corker with a lead over harold ford jr 86 percent of the vote in that is a three percentage point lead 30 about 58 000 votes can't call that race yet we're going to be watching these four races because that's where the drama as i said is right now let's bring back paula and bill for some exit poll results from missouri we're trying to make sense of a lot of numbers that have just come our way and the one thing we wanted to try to put into perspective is talking about the people who voted yes on stem cell research was which has

been an incredibly divisive issue in this campaign and here's what they had to say 76 percent of those voted for clare mccaskill 22 percent for jim talent now another thing i think is worth looking at is the percentage of those voters who identified themselves as white evangelicals 73 percent voting for talent 25 percent for mccaskill what does this tell us it tells us that there's a very big divide on more on religious and value grounds in that missouri race missouri has a state is a state with a lot of white evangelical voters a lot of born-again christians the stem cell research issue has been very important there very divisive as you can see those who are voting yes on stem cell three quarters overwhelmingly for the democrat and evangelical or born-again white christians almost three-quarters of them are voting republican that is why this race is so close it's the values divide it is also a race we're talking about in terms of the amount of money spent on it just show me the money state what nine million dollars pumped in the mccaskill campaign by the democrats compared to i

[04:50:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=17402s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=17402s)

campaign by the democrats compared to i i guess that's two million more than the state of ohio that's right it's one of the it's one of the most closely contested states in the country and if i had to pick a state that i would say is most representative most typical of the country as a whole it would be missouri and missouri is tonight a very closely divided state wolf paula thanks very much uh paula and bill we want to continue to uh our special coverage here from cnn election headquarters as we watch what's happening the drama still unclear in the u.s senate will get you an update on all the actual votes coming in in those four undecided battleground states that will determine the majority in the united states senate right after this welcome back to our continuing coverage uh we're at cnn election headquarters in new york want to get back to a race that we projected a winner on already and that would be in the state of maryland between ben cardin the congressman michael steele the republican challenger the lieutenant governor of maryland we projected that ben cardin will be elected the next senator from the state of maryland succeeding paul sarbanes who is retiring right now with 65 percent of the vote uh projected this 65 percent of the precincts that are in uh 52 going for ben cardin 46 for michael steele you heard ken melman here on cnn tell our lou dobbs only a few moments ago that the washington post has withdrawn its projected victory for michael steele and we did check that is true the washington post has withdrawn its projection but cnn is staying with its projection that ben cardin will be elected because as we take a look at the outstanding vote 66 percent of the precincts reporting

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percent of the precincts reporting 34 still remaining we've we've discovered what well we've discovered that according to our information the outstanding votes are coming from heavily democratic areas the votes that still remain to be counted that's right they haven't they come from baltimore which is traditionally baltimore city the city of baltimore they come from prince george's county outside of washington dc and they come from montgomery county which is bethesda and chevy chase silver springs another suburb suburban county of washington d.c all of those areas are heavily democratic now prince george's county is the home county of michael steele so there may be some question there but there's no doubt that montgomery county and baltimore city are very very heavily democratic georges county is also the county where michael steele got the endorsement of some prominent african-american democrats who charged the democrats of maryland had taken the african-americans for granted so we don't know what that means but it is clear that at least if history is any god that baltimore uh and and the outline suburbs we talked about are democrats they don't get much more democratic those three areas baltimore city prince george's county as well as montgomery county in maryland that's why we're staying with our projection that ben cardin will be elected the next united states senator from maryland michael steele a lieutenant governor who's run a very very strong campaign in maryland will go down to defeat but presumably his political future remains very very strong down the road this is uh an explanation we wanted to give in the aftermath of what ken mellman told lou dobbs just a little while ago here on cnn but the key drama jeff remains those four other those four other states where the

republicans have uh take a look at this we're ready to make two more projections in nevada the incumbent republican john ensign will be re-elected not a huge surprise john kyle we project will be re-elected in arizona as well the democrats had held out hope that they had a shot there clearly uh

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there clearly uh john kyle we project will remain in the united states senate but they poured some resources in they sent some of their heavy hitters out to arizona but in the end john kyle is re-elected that board that we played with now is solid and we are now down to those four senate seats for sure and take a look at this and i want to get a close-up of this this is the virginia race look at this with 99 of the vote in webb has now gone slightly ahead of george allen with a million forty one thousand fifty two votes compared to a million one hundred thirty eight thousand six hundred and seventy six votes for george allen webb has gone slightly ahead this has flipped in the last few minutes and the reason is according to my producer bob ruff who's one smart guy that the the bulk of the votes that were not yet counted were coming from richmond city an african-american area where you would expect the democrat to run strong if that's the case uh you can do the math we've got about 2.3 million votes one percent of the vote maybe 25 000 votes left to count if they are coming from that predominantly democratic area webb may wind up this thing a few thousand votes ahead and it'll be george allen who has a right to demand a recount and i'm being told that two percent of arlington county outside of washington dc in northern virginia still remains to be counted and everyone has always assumed that that would be a heavily democratic part of the state of virginia it does bear repeating that george allen entered this year assuming that he was going to be a landslide winner and set himself up for a run at the republican presidential nomination he is now fighting for his political life it doesn't get much closer you do the actual account look at this what is it about 2500 votes difference out of more than 2 million 200 000 cast in virginia 99 of the precincts now reporting a slight ever so slight advantage going to uh going to web over allen and but remember remember that if it's uh less than one percent

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that if it's uh less than one percent the margin of victory the defeated candidate can ask for an automatic recount the state has to do that anderson uh pick it up it's incredibly tense in virginia uh it is incredibly tense and one person who seems uh very happy right now is james carville who has been uh i don't know i don't think we caught it on camera james but you did basically like a touchdown for football i look uh if webb holds on and i i spoke to the castle people in missouri they said they don't feel so confident to tell me that they're going to win but they feel they feel very confident if that happens the senate comes down to montana you're in for one thrilling night and and one thing in a virginia race that's interesting is i know if it wouldn't be for the green candidate webb would have won easily but right now we have web ahead i've spoken to the people in missouri they have they're they're confident but not assuring me that they're going to win based on where the numbers are coming from if that happens anderson this entire night in control of the united states senate will come down to the state of montana 3 000 votes right now separating jim webb that's right from allen and as a recount we had a recount in the attorney general's race last year where the republican won by i think called something like 325 votes and it held up unless there's a big transposition error where somebody made a republican county turned it around did leads generally hold up in virginia and as we're listening to james talking we're looking at pictures from democratic party headquarters where we're going to go shortly as soon as they start to talk paul begala this is what election night is for so exciting not just for democrats dude well i'm a democrat but i like having this nail biter down to the end i was well james was talking i was on the phone with jessica vanderberg who's webb's campaign manager and she says some of the votes are newport news traditionally pretty republican area but it's a naval area and webb should do well there as a marine and it's a highly decorated marine at that the rest richmond city as jeff pointed out in some absentee votes in arlington county folks in pretty good shape okay and cnn's dana bash right now is in

[04:58:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=17880s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=17880s)

cnn's dana bash right now is in democratic party headquarters let's go to her dana is the last place in america to get the news well let me tell you tonight the news is arriving hearing what dana is saying let's listen in to some of the speakers the american people have sent a resounding and unmistakable message of change and new direction for america [Applause] we accept your votes not as a victory for our party but as an opportunity for our country and we accept humbly accept your challenge to clean up a broken budget and broken politics to promote policies that make it easier for hard-working americans who are struggling with the costs of health care college prescription drugs and retirement security to get serious about breaking our dangerous dependence on foreign oil and enacting the recommendations of the 9 11 commission recommendations and all americans have recognized to finally acknowledge that what we're doing in iraq isn't working and we desperately need to change cars we can do these things and we can do

[05:00:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=18000s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=18000s)

we can do these things and we can do more if we put the long-term interests of our country ahead of a confident constant effort to seek political advantage it's time for the endless campaign to stop and the hard work of governing to begin and this is our pledge to you you have given us a chance to turn this country around and we'll give you the government that no longer lets you down we will do it by reaching across the partisan divide setting aside the bitterness of the last few years and leading america in a new direction that's our commitment and tonight we extend the hand of a cooperation to the president our colleagues across the aisle we will work with you when we agree we will challenge you when we don't but our goal will always be the best interests of our country we welcome the opportunity to usher in a new era of responsibility in washington and there's a lesson i want you to hear this lesson the american people never lose their zeal for reform and neither can we [Music] the old era of irresponsibility is over and the new era of real reform has just begun [Music] i want to just thank a few people if i can i want to thank one person in particular she has been tireless

[05:02:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=18120s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adYloz7kgXg&t=18120s)

she has been tireless campaigner a heroic fundraiser and she will soon make history as the first female speaker of the united states house of representative nancy pelosi all right we're watching uh what's going on we're going to continue our special coverage larry king is standing by as well let's just recap where we stand it's midnight now here on the east coast the house of representatives cnn projects will become democratic controlled that's why you hear rahm emanuel who was in charge of trying to get democrats elected to

END